GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:646
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2009
UNIQUE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER
Dube Shri Ramesh;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to set up a National Authority for providing Unique Identity numbers to its citizens as reported in the Mail Today dated 27 January,2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof outlining the functions of the Authority;

(c) the role of State Governments envisaged in this regard;

(d) the time by which all the citizens of the country are likely to be issued this number;

(e) the benefits likely to accrue as a result thereof;

(f) whether Unique Identity Data base (UID) smart cards will be different from Multi Purpose Identity Cards; and

(g) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V.NARAYANASAMY)

(a): Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has been notified on 28th January,2009 to generate and assign unique identity numbers to all Residents.

(b): UIDAI has been notified as an attached office under the aegis of Planning Commission with an initial core team of 115 officials and staff at Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) and State/ UT units of UIDAI.The UIDAI shall have the responsibility to lay down plans and policies to implement Unique Identification (UID) scheme,shall own and operate UID database and be responsible for its updation and maintenance on an ongoing basis.

(c): A governance structure needed to manage the UID system throughout its lifecycle is under the process of establishment. State Governments would be active partners in this activity.

(d): It is proposed to cover all the resident population in a phased manner starting with 18 years plus population using electoral roll data base and subsequently build other databases to cover population of below 18 years.

(e): The advantages envisaged as an outcome of the project are that the Unique ID will be helpful in better monitoring and targeting of social benefit and employment programmes and identifying synergies between various ID initiatives prevalent in the country.

(f): There is no proposal to issue UID-based smart cards.

(g): Does not arise.