

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:173
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2005
MULTI PURPOSE IDENTITY CARD
Barman Shri Hiten;Bose Shri Subrata

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to issue Multi-purpose National Identity Card to each citizen in the country;
- (b) if so, the details and purpose thereof and the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;
- (c) the time by which such identity cards are likely to be issued;
- (d) whether such identity cards system has since been started in any part of the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria adopted by the Government for issuance of this card?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIS. REGUPATHY)

(a)&(b): The Government propose to issue Multipurpose National Identity Cards (MNICs) to the citizens of the country. The main purpose of MNICs is to provide a credible individual identification system for improving the security conditions and to help the e-governance initiative by improving the citizen-Government interface.

(c)to(e): Keeping in view the complexities involved, the Government have initiated a Pilot Project on an experimental basis in a few selected sub-districts of 13 States and Union Territories. The Pilot Project is expected to be completed in a few months. The scheme for the entire country would be implemented after taking into account the experiences and the lessons learnt from the Pilot Project.