

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2357
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2009
PHOTO IDENTITY CARDS
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Electoral Photo Identity Cards (EPICs) issued by the Government in various States as on 31st October, 2009, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that a large number of EPICs have been found defective;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to issue error free EPICs in the country, and
- (e) the time by which the entire country is likely to be covered fully with EPICs?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOELY)

- (a): A Statement showing the latest number of Elector's Photo Identity Cards (EPICs) issued in various States/Union territories as on 07-10-2009 is laid on the Table of the House.
- (b) to (d): Cases of issue of a large number of defective EPICs have not come to the notice of the Election Commission, though cases do occur where particulars are wrongly written or mismatch of photo takes place. The same are sent for correction to the officers concerned in the office of the Electoral Registration Officer.
- (e): It has been the endeavour of the Election Commission to achieve 100% coverage under the EPIC scheme. Efforts have been constantly made to cover all the electors under the EPIC scheme. The process of issuing EPICs is a continuous process as names of new voters are added every year and those of the persons who have died have to be deleted. Further, on account of migration of persons from one place to another, changes in EPICs need to be carried out . based on their applications.