

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:357
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2009
SURVEY ON MNIC
Muttamwar Shri Vilas Baburao

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to issue Multipurpose National Identity Cards (MNIC)/Unique Identity Cards to the citizens of the country particularly to people living along the coastal areas;
- (b) if so, the financial implication of the scheme;
- (c) whether any survey was undertaken for the purpose of issuing such cards; and
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome of the survey, separately, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 357 FOR 28.7.2009.

(a) to (d): A Pilot Project on Multi-purpose National Identity Card (MNIC) was implemented in the selected areas of 12 states and one union territory viz., Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Puducherry. Under this project, data base has been created of 28.62 lakh persons. 12.88 lakh identity (smart) cards have been issued to those of 18 years of age and above while the rest have been given a national identity number. The implementation of the Pilot Project has been closed on 31.3.2009.

Based on experience of the Pilot Project, the Government has proposed to create a National Population Register (NPR) in the country along with 2011 Census. For the NPR, details on specific characteristics of each individual shall be collected along with photographs and finger biometrics of all those who are 18 years of age and above. However, the NPR for the coastal villages in 9 Maritime States of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal and 4 Union Territories (UTs) of Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Puducherry, will be created during 2009-10. This decision has been made with a view to strengthen the security in coastal areas after 26/11 incident. The scheme has been approved at a cost of Rs. 80.78 crores for data collection in 3331 coastal villages to be covered in first phase. The remaining coastal areas including the towns/cities would be covered along with 2011 census.

The scheme for coastal areas envisages identity cards to be given to all the usual residents who are 18 years of age and above. However, no such decision has been made for issuance of identity (smart) cards to the usual residents in the rest of the country.