

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3382
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2009
INFILTRATION IN NE REGION
Panda Shri Baijayant

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to issue Multi-Purpose Identity Card (MNIC) to the citizens in the country including the North Eastern region with a view to control infiltration in the region;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the status of the project;
- (c) the status of illegal infiltration in the above region and also in Orissa; and
- (d) the extent to which the Government is likely to succeed in repatriating such illegal migrants?

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 LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3382 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. 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 31.03.2009.

Based on experience of the Pilot Project, the Government has proposed to create a National Population Register (NPR) by collecting specific characteristics of each individual in the country along with 2011 Census. The photographs and finger biometrics of all those who are 18 years of age and above will be added later. However, the NPR for all the coastal States/UTs will be created during 2009-10 as one of the measures to strengthen the security in coastal areas after 26/11 incident. The scheme has been approved for 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 villages in the first phase 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.

The Government is aware of illegal immigration/infiltration into various parts of the country. The illegal infiltration in North Eastern region takes place clandestinely. No specific details are available about the magnitude of this illegal infiltration.

The State Governments / UT Administrations have been empowered under section 3(2) (c) of the Foreigners Act, 1946 to detect and deport foreign nationals illegally staying in India. Administrative are issued from time to time requesting the State Governments/UT Administrations to detect and deport illegal migrants staying in the country, Besides, the Government has taken up various measures to curb illegal influx into the country, which interalia includes strengthening of Border Security Force (BSF) and equipping them with modern and sophisticated equipments/ gadgets; reduction of gaps between border outposts, intensification of patrolling, accelerated programme of construction of border roads and border fencing etc.

The issue of illegal immigration/repartiation has also been takenup regularly with the Government of Bangladesh in various fora, including the Home Secretary level talks.