

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1030  
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2011  
NATIONAL POPULATION REGISTER  
Dubey Shri Nishikant ;Patil Shri C. R.

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to prepare a National Population Register (NPR) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be prepared;
- (c) whether the process of `Social Vetting` by Gram Sabhas and Ward Committees are likely to be used for NPR and no other documents/proofs would be required for the process;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government has taken any measures to ensure that the names of illegal migrants are not included in the said register;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the process of issuing Multipurpose National Identity Cards based on NPR is foolproof; and
- (g) the total expenditure likely to be incurred in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT)

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): The Government has decided to create a National Population Register (NPR) in the country by collecting information on specific characteristics of all usual residents in the country. The NPR would also have photographs, 10 finger prints and IRIS of all usual residents who are of age 5 years and above. The data collection (in paper format) for creation of NPR has been completed alongwith Houselisting and Housing operations of Census 2011 during April-September, 2010. The paper schedules, approximately 26 crore, have been scanned. The collection of biometrics would start from April, 2011 onwards. The complete NPR database, alongwith the three biometrics, would be sent to Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) for de-duplication and assignment of Unique ID Number. It is proposed to issue the resident identity (smart) card, embedded with UID numbers, to all the 'usual residents' of the country who are of age 18 years and above.

(c) to (f): The National Population Register (NPR) is a Register of Usual Resident. It would contain citizens as well as non-citizens. The objective of creating a NPR is to net all usual residents of the country at a given point of time (the reference date). Further, the list of usual residents would be published in local areas and placed in Gram Sabha/Ward Committee for inviting claims/objections. The claims and objections would be looked into by the Revenue Officials like Patwari or Talati who act as the Local Registrars, Tehsildars who are designated as Sub-District Registrars and Collector/DMs who are designated as District Registrars. However, this does not preclude the raising of claims/objections by law enforcement agencies or by the Registrars suo moto. In sensitive areas, State/UT Governments could take up additional measures for verification and will be free to involve the local Police Stations or the Village Chowkidars in the process of verification.

(g): The Cabinet has approved the scheme of creation of NPR for the country at an estimated cost of Rs. 3539.24 crore [excluding IRIS scan], so far. The revised cost of the scheme at Rs. 6649.05 crore has been approved by the Expenditure Finance Committee.