

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1910
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2011
BIOMETRIC IDENTITY CARD TO FISHERMEN
Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh;Sule Supriya

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has launched any scheme for providing biometric identity cards to the fishermen living along the coastal areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has provided funds to a consortium led by Bharat Electronics Limited for data gathering and issue of biometric cards;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the details of such cards provided to the fishermen in the country, State-wise; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1910 FOR 08.03.2011

(a) to (f): Yes. The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture has launched a Central sector Scheme namely 'Issuance of Biometric Identity Cards to Marine Fishermen' with cost of Rs.72 crore on 11th December, 2009. A sum of Rs.8 crore has been released during 2009-2010 to the 9 Coastal States and 4 Union Territories for implementation of this scheme. The consultancy work involving digitization of data, capturing of biometric details, design & production and issuance of Biometric cards to marine fishermen has been awarded to a consortium of three Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) led by Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL). Other two members of the consortium are Indian Telephone Industries Limited (ITI), Bangalore and Electronics Corporation of India Limited (ECIL), Hyderabad. An amount of Rs.25 crore released to the Consortium for taking up the project.

Out of 17,86,137 marine fishermen identified for issuance of biometric ID card, data collection in respect of 15,56,298 have been completed as on 28th February, 2011. Data collection in respect of remaining 2,42,735 fishermen is progressing. Digitization of data in respect of 15,45,942 fishermen have been completed. Besides, biometric enrolment in respect of 11,04,982 fishermen have been completed till 28th February, 2011. The distribution of biometric Identity Cards to marine fishermen has yet not started.