

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4409
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2011
BIOMETRIC CARDS TO FISHERMEN
Rani Killi Krupa

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE 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) the details of such cards provided to the fishermen in the country, State-wise; and
- (d) the details of the data gathered for issue of biometric cards to the fishermen, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. The Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries had on 11th December, 2009 launched a Central Sector Scheme(CSS) on Issuance of Biometric Identity Cards to marine fishers at a total cost of? 72 crore. The scheme has following four components:

- (i) Assistance to the costal States and Union Territories for data collection and authentication
- (ii) Personalization and production of Biometric Identity Cards
- (iii) Key management System
- (iv) Establishment of Central Server

(c) & (d) The marine fishers are provided a smart card based biometric identity cards having a chip of 64 Kbytes capacity in each card. The card contains both demographic and biometric details of the card holder. Out of 18,11,697 fishers identified for issuance of biometric card, data collection and digitization in respect of 16,14,848 and 16,04,492 fishers respectively have been completed. Biometric enrolment in respect of 11,52,184 fishers has also been completed. A statement indicating state-wise details of data gathered are furnished at Annexure.