

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3050

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2011

MULTI PURPOSE IDENTITY CARDS

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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the role and task assigned to National Registration Authority, unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) and Census Commissioner regarding issuing of Multi Purpose National Identity Card (MNIC);
- (b) the process adopted by them to collect the data and issue MNIC;
- (c) the details of the total funds required allocated and utilised by each of them for the purpose;
- (d) whether the Government has taken any step to coordinate the work of these separate bodies to avoid duplication and thereby reduce the Government expenditure;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (g) the present status of this work?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH)

(a): Under section 14A(3) of the Citizenship Act, 1955 the Registrar General, India has been designated as National Registration Authority (NRA) and he is to function as the Registrar General of Citizen Registration. Section 14A(1) of the Citizenship Act, 1955 states "the Central Government may compulsorily register every citizen of India and issue national identity card to him". Under Section 14A(5), the Government has been empowered to prescribe the procedures to be followed in compulsory registration of the citizens of India. Further Section 18 of the Act empowers Central Government to make Rules to carry out the purposes of the Act. The Rule 3(4) of Citizenship (Registration of Citizens and issue of National Identity Cards) Rules 2003 states that "The Central Government may, by an order issued in this regard, decide a date by which the Population Register shall be prepared by collecting informationer, Rule 18 states that "The Registrar General of Citizen Registration may, in consultation with the Central Government, issue from time to time, such guidelines to the State Governments as are considered necessary for implementation of these rules."

(b): Accordingly, the Government of India has issued guidelines for preparation of NPR by collecting demographic information on specific items of all usual residents through a house-to-house enumeration by the designated Government officials, appointed for the purpose under the provisions of the Act. The NPR will also have photographs, 10 finger prints and 2 IRIS of all usual residents who are of age 5 years and above. The biometric data would also be collected in the presence of designated government officials. Further, the list of 'usual residents' would be published in local areas and placed in Gram Sabha/ Ward Committee for invitation of objections and claims. The claims and objections would be looked into by revenue officials like Patwari, Tehsildars and Collectors/ DMs who are designated as the Local Registrars, Sub-district Registrars and District Registrars, respectively. The NPR database would be sent to Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) for de-duplication and issue of UID Numbers (Aadhaar). Issuance of Resident Identity (smart) Cards (RICs) to all the usual residents in the country, who are of age 18 years and above, is a part of the NPR scheme.

(c): The Government has approved Rs. 6649.05 crore for the scheme of creation of NPR. Financial proposals for issuance of Resident Identity (smart) Card (RIC) under the NPR are under the consideration of Expenditure Finance Committee(EFC). The scheme has not yet been approved.

(d)to(e): The mandate of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) is to issue Unique Identity Numbers (Aadhaar) to all residents of the country and not a Card. The UIDAI is generating Aadhaar numbers and communicating it to the residents through a letter. UIDAI has informed Government that UIDAI is not issuing any card. However, it is learnt that the National Payment Corporation of India has tied up with the UIDAI for issue of 'RuPay' cards (Dhan Aadhaar cards) which serves as ATM/micro-ATM cards and about 250 such cards have been issued by Bank of India.

(f): Question does not arise.

(g): The data collection (in paper format) for creation of NPR has been completed in the country along with Houselisting and Housing Census in 2010. The scanning of these filled in NPR Schedules (approx. 26 crore) has also been completed. The work of data entry and capture of three biometric has been entrusted to two agencies i.e. consortium of Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) and Department of Information Technology (DIT). As on date more than 32 crore records have been digitized (in english and the regional language) and biometrics have been captured for more than 86 lakh persons.