

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:84
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2012
NATIONAL POPULATION REGISTER
Jindal Shri Naveen

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to prepare a National Population Register (NPR) of residents and issue Nation-wide Multi Purpose National Identity Cards (MNIC) based on the NPR;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the current status of the project;
- (c) whether the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) was also entrusted with and is working on a largely similar project;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the revised mandate of the UIDAI and NPR to avoid duplication of work; and
- (e) the timeline by which MNIC is likely to be issued alongwith the estimated cost for the same?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Government of India has decided to prepare a National Population Register under the statutory provisions laid down in the Citizenship Act, 1955 and Citizenship Rules, 2003. The demographic information required for this purpose has already been collected from all the usual residents through a house-to-house enumeration during the first phase of Census 2011. All the filled in schedules have been scanned and data entry of the particulars is going on. The next phase of NPR which involves the collection of biometric data- photograph, 10 finger prints and 2 IRIS prints of all usual residents who are of age 5 years and above, is currently going on. The NPR database consisting of demographic and biometric data will be sent to Unique Identification Authority of India

(UIDAI) for de-duplication and issue of UID Numbers (Aadhaar). After this, the Local Register of Usual Residents (LRUR) alongwith Aadhaar number would be published in the local areas for inviting objections and claims. The LRUR would also be placed before the Gram Sabha/ Ward Committee for social vetting. The claims and objections would be dealt with by revenue officers like Patwari, Tehsildars and Collectors/ DMs who are designated as the Local Registrars, Sub-district Registrars and District Registrars, respectively. A proposal to issue Resident Identity (smart) Cards (RICs) to all the usual residents in the country, who are of age 18 years and above, has been formulated under the NPR scheme. The first phase of this scheme is under implementation in 3331 coastal villages and Port Blair Town (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) in 13 coastal States/UTs. A proposal to roll out the scheme in the rest of the country is awaiting clearance of the Government.

(c) & (d): The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) was setup with the mandate to issue unique identification numbers [Aadhaar], and not a card, based on the demographic and biometric attributes of the persons residing in India. Noting that the purposes of UIDAI and NPR are different, the Government of India has decided that both NPR and UIDAI enrolments would proceed simultaneously. While the NPR enrolment will continue as envisaged in all States/ UTs, the UIDAI will be allowed to enrol 60 crore residents in selected States/ UTs. However, if a person indicates she/ he is already enrolled for Aadhaar, the biometric data will not be captured by NPR. Instead the Aadhaar number/ enrolment number will be recorded in NPR and the biometric data would be sourced from the UIDAI.

(e): Question does not arise.