GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1699
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2012
AADHAAR PROJECT UNDER IB SCANNER
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Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Aadhaar Project has come under the Intelligence Bureau(IB) scanner following several complaints that the Unique Identity numbers have been issued in the name of fruits and vegetables like apple, coriander etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether about 45,000 Aadhaar numbers are lying undelivered with various Post Offices in Andhra Pradesh as the address mentioned were found to be fake and 7000 numbers are lying in various Post Offices in Karwar district, Karnataka;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Registrar General of India has been against the entire Unique Identification Project, terming it a non-verification data service; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken on this sensitive issue?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) & (b): The Home Ministry has raised the matter of integrity of the data collected by the UIDAI as well as its security in view of the methodology adopted by the UIDAI. Aadhaar project is a developmental initiative and not a security related initiative. UIDAI has a mandate to generate and issue a unique identification number to every resident who enrolls. It does not confer citizenship nor does it guarantee entitlements, which will be determined by the relevant statutory/implementing authorities.

The enrolment processes of UIDAI are based on the reports of the Demographic Data Standards and Verification Procedure Committee which was constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri N Vittal and the Committee constituted for Biometrics Design Standards for UID applications under the Chairmanship of Dr. B.K. Gairola, Director General, National Informatics Centre. UIDAI has also prescribed detailed enrolment processes. However there were two instances of process violation, where the resident's name was recorded as coriander. A complaint has been lodged by the concerned Enrolment Agency with the Police Department against the enrolment operators in Anantapur District of Andhra Pradesh, where these enrolments occurred.

(c) & (d): As on date, 17,07,617 articles are lying undelivered in various Post Offices in Andhra Pradesh and 3804 articles in Karwar District, Karnataka. Articles may be lying undelivered because these were received in bulk and delivery of these letters is a time consuming exercise. Aadhaar letters that cannot be delivered due to any one of the following reasons, are not kept in the Post Office but returned to the sender:-

(i) Addressee cannot be located.

(ii) Insufficient Address

(iii) Addressee moved

(iv) Item refused by addressee

(v) Deceased

(vi) Unclaimed

(e) & (f): The Registrar General, India (RGI) is creating a National Population Register (NPR) of persons usually residing in India under the Citizenship (Registration of Citizens and Issue of National Identity Cards) Rules, 2003 read with the Citizenship Act, 1955. UIDAI is issuing Unique Identification Numbers (called Aadhaar numbers) to all residents as a developmental initiative. RGI is one of the Registrars of UIDAI. Earlier, there was a difference of opinion between the Home Ministry and the Unique Identification Authority of India regarding acceptance of biometric data of other Registrars of the UIDAI eco-system. Now this difference of opinion has been resolved during the meeting of the Cabinet Committee on UIDAI held on 27th January 2012. In order to streamline biometric data

collection of the residents, the Government has decided that in States where UIDAI has made good progress or where States/UTs Governments have given commitments for Aadhaar enrolments and are planning to integrate with various service delivery applications, Aadhaar enrolments through non RGI Registrars will continue. Accordingly, certain States have been specified where UIDAI will collect data. It has also been decided that the NPR enrolment will continue as envisaged, but if in the course of enrolment, a person indicates that he/she is already enrolled for Aadhaar, the biometric data will not be captured by RGI. Instead, the Aadhaar number/enrolment number will be recorded in NPR and biometric data will be given to the RGI by UIDAI.