

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2683  
ANSWERED ON:28.08.2012  
NATIONAL POPULATION REGISTER  
Adityanath Shri Yogi;Pathak Shri Harin

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has initiated the process of preparing National Population Register (NPR) of usual residents and issuing of nationwide Multi Purpose National Identity Cards (MNIC) based on the NPR;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a process of 'social vetting' by Gram Sabhas and Ward Committees would be used for MNIC and that no other document of proof would be required for the process; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the process of issuing MNIC is foolproof and the card is not misused as a proof of Indian Citizenship?

**Answer**

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

(a): Yes, Madam. The Government has decided to create a National Population Register(NPR) by collecting information on specific characteristics of all usual residents in the country and is also actively considering the issuance of Resident Identity (smart) Cards to all usual residents who are of age 18 years and above.

(b): The NPR would include citizens as well as non-citizens. It would have photographs, 10 finger prints and 2 IRIS prints of all usual residents who are of age 5 years and above. Financial proposals for RICs has been appraised by the Expenditure Finance Committee and recommended. The Aadhaar number will be printed on the Resident Identity Card.

(c) to (d): Yes, Madam. 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 officials like Patwari, Tehsildars and Collectors/ DMs who are designated as the Local Registrars, Sub-district Registrars and District Registrars, respectively. However, this does not preclude the raising of claims/ objections by law enforcement agencies or by the Registrars suo moto. In sensitive areas, State/ UT Governments could take up additional measures for verification and will be free to involve the local Police Stations or the Village Chowkidars in the process of verification. The resident identity (smart) cards shall also contain disclaimer that the card does not confer any right to citizenship to the card holder. The NPR is the first step towards the creation of a National Register of Indian Citizen. A resident can be a part of this Citizens Register only after thorough verification of her/ his citizenship status.