

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:66  
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2009  
MULTI PURPOSE NATIONAL IDENTITY CARD  
Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash;Antony Shri Anto

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

- (a) whether the pilot project for issuing Multipurpose National Identity Card to all the citizens of the country has been completed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the experience gained in the pilot project, is proposed to be replicated;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the status of the project, at present?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 66 FOR 24.11.2009 REGARDING "MULTI-PURPOSE NATIONAL IDENTITY CARD"

(a) to (e): Yes, Madam. The Pilot-project for issuing Multipurpose National Identity (smart) Card (MNIC) has been successfully completed on 31st March, 2009 after distributing nearly 13 lakh MNIC cards in the pilot areas.

Based on the learnings of the pilot project on MNIC, the Government has decided to create a National Population Register (NPR) in the country by collecting information on specific characteristics of each individual alongwith Census 2011. The NPR Schedule would be canvassed during the Houselisting and Housing Census starting from April 2010. Later, photographs and fingerprints of all those who are 18 years of age and above will be captured.

As one of the measures to strengthen coastal security, creation of NPR for the coastal villages in all the 9 Maritime States, namely, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal and 4 Union Territories (UTs), namely, Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Pudducherry has been taken up. The work of direct data collection to map a population of over 1.2 crore in the coastal villages is in progress since August 1, 2009. So far, personal details of more than 30 lakh people have been collected. The work of collecting photographs and fingerprints of individuals aged 15 years and above is going on.