

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:689  
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2009  
IMPACT OF MULTIPURPOSE NATIONAL IDENTITY CARDS  
Jindal Shri Naveen

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

- (a) whether the Multipurpose National Identity Cards (MNICs) is likely to invade an individual's right to privacy;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether any representation/ suggestion received in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the details of the safeguards envisaged against corrupting of information data and the exploitation of personal data collected for issuance of such cards;
- (f) whether the Government has considered and taken into account the history of national identity cards in other countries regarding the potential threats that the MNIC scheme poses; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and safeguards provided in the scheme in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d): No, Madam.

(e) to (g): The MNIC pilot project has been completed on 31.03.2009. The data collected during the pilot project is kept in a secure database. The Government has now approved a project to create a National Population Register (NPR). Once created the NPR will be a secure database accessible only within the Government for security purposes. The individual's right to privacy will not be compromised. Adequate safe guards will be built into the system to avoid corruption of information data and the exploitation of personal data collected. An expert group in the National Informatics Centre (NIC) is advising the Government on the setting up of IT Hardware required for this purpose.