

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1621
ANSWERED ON-10.03.2011

SALIENT FEATURES OF UNIQUE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

1621 . DR. VIJAY MALLYA

- (a) whether there is any revision in the financial allocation made to Unique Identification Authority, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the salient features of Unique Identification Number;
- (c) the time-frame to complete the project; and
- (d) whether it would be made compulsory at the time of opening new Bank account, to obtain PAN to obtain passport and while renewing passport etc.?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES

(DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a): The total approved estimated cost of Phase-I and II of the project spread over five years from Financial Year 2009-10 to 2013-14 is Rs.3,170.32 crore. There has not been any reduction in the amount allocated for this project.

(b): The Unique Identification (UID) number called 'Aadhaar' is a 12 digit random number. It does not contain any intelligence. The number will prove only identity and not citizenship. The procedure for enrolment requires that the residents be enrolled into UID database after proper verification of their demographic and biometric information to ensure that the data collected is clean and without duplicates. No demographic or biometric information will be shared in response to requests for authentication of identity. A set of mandatory, conditional and optional demographic data such as name, date of birth, gender, name of parents, residential address and biometric features such as photograph, all ten finger prints and iris images will together establish and verify the identity of a resident.

(c): The mandate of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) is to issue Unique Identification (UID) numbers (Aadhaar) to all residents of India. UIDAI has planned to enroll 600 million residents by March, 2014. As of date 26,79,712 Aadhaar numbers have been generated.

(d): No Sir, there is no such proposal at present. Aadhaar is an enabler. The genesis of the Unique Identification Programme (Aadhaar) lay in the fact that the poor and marginalized in India may get excluded from access to social welfare schemes and programmes meant for them for want of identity documents. Aadhaar aims to provide a soft identity infrastructure which can be used to re-engineer public services so that these lead to equitable, efficient and better delivery of services.

Enrolment of residents is voluntary. Residents have the option to open an Aadhaar linked bank account at the time of enrolment. Reserve Bank of India has advised all the Scheduled Commercial Banks (excluding RRBs)/Local Area Banks/ All India Financial Institutions to treat 'Aadhaar' as a valid document to open small accounts. The measure is a step towards financial inclusion.