

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO-326
ANSWERED ON-02.12.2010

MAINTENANCE OF PRIVACY IN UNIQUE IDENTITY CARDS .

326 . SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA

- (a) whether it is a fact that Unique Identification Authority of India has been established for making Unique Identity Cards for people of the country;
- (b) whether it is a fact that there would be an expenditure of ` 45,000 crore on this scheme during the next four years;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that all private information about the people in the said identity card would become public, which would be a violation of the fundamental rights of the people; and
- (d) if so, the arrangement being made to maintain the privacy of individuals of the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, PERSONNEL acPUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSION

(SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 326 REGARDING MAINTENANCE OF PRIVACY IN UNIQUE IDENTITY CARDS RAISED BY SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2010

(a): The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) was set up through Notification dated 28 January, 2009 as an attached office of the Planning Commission with a mandate to issue Unique Identification (UID) numbers (Aadhaar) to all the residents of the country. The UIDAI will issue a number and not a card. 1,53,791 Aadhaar numbers have been generated as of 25.11.2010.

(b): The UID scheme is a Central Sector Scheme. The estimated cost of the Phase-I and Phase-II of the project spread over five years is Rs.3170.32crore. Of this amount, Rs.147.31 crore comprises the cost of Phase-I of the project and Rs.3023.01 crore is the estimated cost of Phase-II of the project. Of Rs.3023.01 crore, Rs.477.11 crore would be towards recurring establishment expenditure and Rs.2545.90 crore would be towards non-recurring project related expenditure. The estimated cost includes project components for issue of 10 crore UID numbers by March 2011 and recurring establishment costs for the entire project phase of five year ending March, 2014.

(c) & (d): The information being sought from residents at the time of enrolments is the basic information limited to name, age, gender and communication address. This is besides the biometric information (photo, ten fingerprints and both iris images) which is proposed to be used as tool for ensuring uniqueness.

UIDAI is taking efforts to ensure that the confidentiality of the data is maintained. For this purpose, UIDAI will not allow download of the data from its Central Identities Data Repository (CIDR) and will answer the queries only in `Yes' or `No'.

UIDAI is putting in place mechanisms and protocols to ensure that data is not accessed in an unauthorized manner.