

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2272
ANSWERED ON-13.12.2012**

Issuing of ID card read by hand held device

2272 Shri Vijay Jawaharlal Darda

- (a) whether the Ministry of Home Affairs wants to give all adult residents an identity card which could be read with a hand-held device that would not require net connectivity;
- (b) if so, whether the Aadhaar scheme can perform many functions of the scheme mentioned at (a) above; and
- (c) if so, whether this would not entail avoidable extra expenditure especially when there are resource constraints due to non-availability of huge funds required for other developmental projects aiming at socio-economic upliftment of deprived sections of the society?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PARLIAMNETARY AFFAIRS & PLANNING

(SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c): No, Sir. The need to create a National Population Register (NPR) and issue Resident Identity Smart Cards (RICs) stems from the assessment of the Government of the internal security system in the country while Aadhaar is essentially meant for welfare and development functions. The RIC would enable both online and offline authentication of identity in a secure manner and will complement the efforts of Aadhaar which works online and does not involve issuing a smart card. Therefore, there is no duplication.