GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2792 TO BE ANSWERED ON: 09.12.2016

MISUSE OF AADHAAR CARDS AND DATA COLLECTED UNDER UID SCHEME

2792. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS and INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a Pakistani spy caught in New Delhi in October carried an Aadhaar card issued in his name?
- (b) if so, whether the system of issuing Aadhaar cards is faulty or lacks proper supervision; and
- (c) whether Government is assessing the possibility of misuse of Aadhaar cards and the data collected under the UID scheme?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c): UIDAI only issues Aadhaar to the residents of the country. Aadhaar is not a proof of citizenship or nationality.

The methodology approved for issuance of unique identity for every resident of the country involves use of certain basic demographic information combined with ten finger prints, both irises and photograph to uniquely identify a resident through a process of de-duplication. The demographic and biometric attributes of residents are collected by various agencies of the Central and the State Governments and others who, in normal course of their activities, interact with the residents. These entities are 'Registrars' of the UIDAI. The information is subsequently uploaded by these agencies to UIDAI where it undergoes a number of quality checks and biometric de-duplication before an Aadhaar is generated.

The verification procedure for demographic data submitted by the resident during enrolment includes supporting documents, introducer system and National Population Register process of public scrutiny. Major portion of the enrolment is document based. There are well defined lists of Proof of Identity (PoI) and Proof of Address (PoA). Under document based enrolment, a resident has to submit any of the PoI/PoA from the said list.

There are well defined processes and guidelines of Aadhaar enrolment that the Registrars and Enrolment Agencies are bound to follow. A proper deterring mechanism is in place discouraging any deviation from these laid down processes and guidelines. The complete trail of each and every enrolment is maintained. There is provision for concurrent evaluation of the Enrolment Centres.

Aadhaar is generated after a number of quality checks and biometric de-duplication. Every attempt is made to ensure that fake/bogus enrolments are identified through quality checks and biometric deduplication process, and rejected. In a miniscule number of cases, where an ineligible enrolment may slip through, there are provisions for taking action against the delinquent operator/supervisor/enrolment agency; financial penalties; and criminal proceedings by lodging of FIR, besides cancellation of such Aadhaars.

Aadhaar verification service is available on a public portal <u>https://resident.uidai.net.in</u> where any person can check the validity of an Aadhaar instantaneously. The entities requiring a resident to produce Aadhaar as a proof of identity can authenticate the Aadhaar holder online, anytime and anywhere.
