in case biometric are collected during the NPR exercise, there is no need for any resident to give the biometric data to UIDAI.

(d) and (e) As one of the measures to strengthen coastal security, the Government has already approved a scheme of creation of National Population Register (NPR) in 1331 coastal villages in 13 Maritime States/Union Territories and issuance of RICs to all usual resident of age 18 years and above in these villages at an estimated cost of Rs. 216.31 crore. More than 62 lakh cards have been produced and personalized for these areas. As an extension of this, the Government has approved the scheme of creation of NPR in the country at an estimated cost of Rs. 6649.05 crore and the same is under implementation. Presently, the proposal for issuance of Resident Identity (smart) Cards to all the usual residents in the country who are of age 18 years and above under the scheme of creation of NPR has been appraised by the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) and recommended. The Union Cabinet, in its meeting on 31.01.2013, has considered the proposal and referred the same to a Group of Ministers (GoM). The GoM has since been constituted. Further, the mandate of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) is to issue Unique Identity Numbers (Aadhaar) to all residents of the country and not a card. The UIDAI is generating Aadhaar numbers and communicating it to the residents through a letter which is referred to in common parlance as the "Aadhaar Card". The proposed Resident Identity Card under NPR on the other hand is a Plastic Smart Card, which would not only be durable but also enable field authentication of identity without dependence on any external media like internet on mobile connectivity.

Recent instances of rape cases in capital

1014. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- whether it is a fact that after the ghasty rape and murder of a paramedical student in Delhi recently, there are more than 45 rape cases reported in the capital; and
- if so, what are the reasons that in spite of such terrible incident and steps taken by the Delhi and Central Government, there are more and more number of such instances in the capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) After the rape incident of 16, December, 2012, 36 cases of rape have been registered by Delhi Police from 17.12.2012 to 31.12.2012 and 181 cases of rape have been registered from 01.01.2013 to 15.02.2013 by Delhi Police.

The Delhi Police has been promptly taking up rape cases investigation which is borne out from the table showing worked out percentage of rape cases during the years 2009 to 2012:-

| Year | Worked out percentage |
|------|-----------------------|
| 2009 | 98.50 |
| 2010 | 99.01 |
| 2011 | 97.52 |
| 2012 | 93.62 |

Leaking of letter from Home Secretary to COAS

1015. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that the Home Secretary had written a letter to the Chief of Air Staff about the recent forced landing of a helicopter in Chhattisgarh and that this letter was leaked to media:
- (b) if so, whether Government has conducted any investigation on the leaking of this letter and the background behind this letter; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) The Union Home Secretary had written a demiofficial letter dated 28.01.2013 to the Secretary, Ministry of Defence on the said matter. The contents of this letter were not disclosed to the Media by the Ministry of Home Affairs and hence, there is no question of any inquiry into the matter.

Pending mercy petitions

1016. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: