

Progress of NPR

4583. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress of National Population Register (NPR) process all over the country;
- (b) whether Government has made it compulsory for having NPR for each citizen;
- (c) if so, what would be difference between NPR and Aadhaar Card; and
- (d) the details of the budget of NPR and the completion schedule of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) The Government has decided to create a National Population Register (NPR) in the country by collecting information on specific characteristics of each 'usual resident'. The NPR would also have photographs, 10 finger prints and IRIS of all 'usual resident' who are age 5 years and above. The NPR database would be sent to Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) for de-duplication and issue of Aadhaar Number. The collection of demographic data for creation of National Population Register (NPR) for the entire country has already been completed through house-to-house enumeration. Scanning of all filled-in NPR schedule (*i.e.*, approximately 27 crore) has been done. Data digitization of more than 117.3 crore population has been completed. Biometric enrolment of more than 14.05 crore population is over. The biometric data of 9.73 crore persons have been sent to Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) and Aadhaar number for 5.58 crore persons, enrolled under NPR, has been generated.

(b) The NPR is being created as per the provisions of Citizenship Act, 1955 and Citizenship Rules 2003 under which it is compulsory for each usual resident to register in NPR. The NPR is a register of all usual residents in the country which would contain citizens as well as non-citizens. It is the first step towards the creation of the National Register of Indian Citizens.

(c) The mandate of UIDAI, an executive authority under the Planning Commission, is to de-duplicate and generate a unique identity number called 'Aadhaar'. The enrolment for Aadhaar is voluntary. Once Aadhaar is generated, it is

communicated to the resident through a letter, commonly known as Aadhaar Card. The de-duplication and generation of Aadhaar number by UIDAI is a part of NPR process.

(d) The Government has approved Rs. 6649.05 crore for creation of NPR in the entire country. The exercise is slated to be completed by 2014-15.

Citizenship to Pakistani Hindu migrants in Rajasthan

4584. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to give Indian citizenship to thousands of Pakistani Hindu migrants living in Rajasthan for several years;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of total Pakistani Hindu migrants in the country at present; and

(d) the measures taken by Government to reduce the fee for citizenship to a nominal value as most of the displaced Hindus are daily wage earners and most of them could not apply to get Indian citizenship in 2004 for this reason alone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) The provisions available in the Citizenship Act, 1955 and the rules made there under for seeking Indian citizenship are applicable to all the foreigners (including Pakistani Hindu migrants living in Rajasthan). There is no discrimination on the basis of nationality or gender of a person. The Pakistani Hindu migrants living in Rajasthan for several years are also eligible for Indian citizenship, if otherwise eligible under the law. All such cases are processed as per the provisions of the law as and when received. The centralized data about the number of Pakistani Hindu migrants staying in the country is not maintained.

(d) At present, there is no proposal to reduce the fee for citizenship which has remained unchanged since 2005.

Survey regarding fire safety in Government buildings

4585. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: