GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 118
ANSWERED ON 02/02/2023

AADHAAR AS THE PRIME AUTHENTICATOR OF VOTER ID

118. Shri Shaktisinh Gohil :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) reason for choosing the Aadhaar database as the prime authenticator for the Voter ID database when both databases serve two different purposes;

(b) whether Government has made any efforts to reduce the number of fake entries within the Aadhaar database;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the total number of persons enrolled in the Voter ID database and on the Aadhaar database, as on date?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a): The process of purification of electoral roll is an ongoing process and involves various stakeholders including political parties, at every stage starting from enrolment of voters, amendment in the roll to effect material changes by virtue of change of residence, marriage, etc. In the process, the electoral registration officer relies upon various documents and undertakes physical verification and also disposes objections, if any. The Election Laws (Amendment) Act, 2021 *inter-alia* envisaged that the electoral registration officer may also require the Aadhaar number for the purposes of authentication of entries in electoral roll. Therefore, Aadhaar is only one of several documents for authentication and identification for the purposes of purifying the electoral rolls.

(b) to (d):   According to the Election Commission of India, with regard to persons enrolled on Voter ID database, as per the final publication of electoral roll as on 01.01.2023, the total number of persons enrolled were 94,50,25,694.   Another information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

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