

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3864

ANSWERED ON:19.04.2005

NATIONAL CITIZEN REGISTER

Khan Shri Mohammad Tahir;Kushwaha Shri Narendra Kumar;Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether work relating to preparation of National Citizen Register has been started by the Government;
- (b) if so, whether the Supreme Court has sought progress report on the aforesaid scheme from the Government; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a): The Government proposes to prepare a National Register of Indian Citizens and issue Multipurpose National Identity Cards to the citizens of the country. Presently, only a Pilot Project has been undertaken on an experimental basis in a few selected sub-districts of 13 States and Union Territories. The experiences and the lessons learnt from the Pilot Project would be taken into account before the scheme is launched in the entire country.

(b) & (c): Yes, Sir. The Hon`ble Supreme Court, in respect of Writ Petition (Civil) NO. 125 of 1998 in the matter of All India Lawyers Forum for Civil Liberties (AIFCL) & another Versus Union of India & Others, had directed Union of India on 17th March, 2005 to file its response to the issues raised by the Counsel for the petitioners during the hearing of the case which, inter-alia, included the steps taken for updation and computerization of National Register of Citizens. The position relating to updation and computerization of National Register of Citizens in Assam was conveyed to the Hon`ble Supreme Court through an affidavit filed on behalf of Government of India on 29th March, 2005.