

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

RAJYA SABHA

QUESTION NO02.03.2010

ANSWERED ON

RECOGNITION OF VOTER ID CARD BY BANKS AS ADDRESS PROOF .

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Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyari

Will the Minister of COALHEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING FINANCE be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether the public sector banks recognize the Voter ID as the valid address proof;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

(SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (c):- In terms of guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Know Your Customer (KYC) norms, all Scheduled Commercial Banks/ Financial Institutions accept Voter ID Card as one of the documents in support of verification of the identity of the customer and not in support of verification of the address of the customer. Under Rule 9 of rules modified under Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2005, banks are required to obtain from a prospective client, inter-alia, one certified copy of an officially valid document containing details of his identity and address as passport, driving license, permanent account number (PAN) card, voter's identity card issued by the Election Commissioner of India or any other document as may be required by the banking company, financial institution or intermediary. The address particulars contained in documents such as Passport, PAN Card, Voter's Identity Card, Driving License etc. which are either once in life time documents or valid for a long period of 10 years, would normally refer to the permanent address or the address at the time of obtaining these documents. Therefore, the address recorded in these documents may be different from the current residential address of the customer while applying for opening of an account. The very purpose of getting the address of the customer verified by the bank is to communicate with him for additional information that may be required by the bank in connection with transactions/operations. Therefore the guidelines issued by RBI envisage utility bills, bank statement, ration card, etc. as documents to be relied upon for verification of address.