

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. \*185**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.12.2022

**FAKE AADHAAR CARDS**

**\*185. SHRI NARESH BANSAL:**

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Aadhaar cards issued in the country and by when all people would get Aadhaar cards;
- (b) whether it is a fact that people are getting fake Aadhaar cards, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government would take steps to verify and issue Aadhaar number only to genuine Indian citizens; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA STARRED  
QUESTION NO.\*185 FOR 23.12.2022 REGARDING FAKE AADHAAR CARDS**

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(a): More than 135 crore Aadhaar numbers have been issued by the Unique Identification Authority of India as on 30.11.2022. After adjusting for estimated deaths, the estimated number of living Aadhaar number holders, as on 30.11.2022, is 129.40 crore.

While every resident is entitled to obtain an Aadhaar number by undergoing the process of enrolment, such enrolment is undertaken on a voluntary basis. Further, since new births require enrolment of children, enrolment has to be done on a continuous and ongoing basis.

(b): The Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 ["Aadhaar Act"] provides for issuance of an Aadhaar number and for its use in physical or electronic form by way of authentication or offline verification in such manner as may be specified by regulations. The regulations made by the Authority in this regard provide for verification of the Authority's digital signature by any offline verification seeking entity. Such digital signature is in the form of a secure QR code, which is printed on the letter issued to residents after enrolment and update ("Aadhaar letter") and is also available in the password-protected electronic copy of Aadhaar ("e-Aadhaar"), the Aadhaar mobile app ("m-Aadhaar") and the secure sharable document which is usable for offline verification {"Aadhaar Paperless Offline e-KYC (XML)"}. In addition, a requesting entity may also check the authenticity of an Aadhaar number by submitting demographic information or biometric information of the individual to the Authority's centralised database.

(c) and (d): The Aadhaar Act entitles every resident to obtain an Aadhaar number and provides that an Aadhaar number is not evidence of citizenship. In accordance with this legal entitlement, Aadhaar numbers are issued to residents in accordance with the provisions of the Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) Regulations, 2016, after obtaining supporting documents, including document for proof of identity and address.

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