

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1385**

ANSWERED ON 14.12.2023

LINKING OF VOTER ID WITH AADHAAR

**1385. Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:
Smt. Vandana Chavan:**

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

- (a) the number of Voter IDs linked with Aadhaar since 'The Election Laws (Amendment) Act' came into force;
- (b) whether linking is being done voluntarily, if so, how is consent from voters being taken;
- (c) whether Aadhaar details will be deleted if a voter takes back consent, the details thereof;
- (d) whether names of voters, whose Voter IDs have not been linked with Aadhaar, have been struck off from voter list, if so, reasons therefor and number thereof; and
- (e) whether Government has taken measures to protect voter database from being misused, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF
THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE;
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS;
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE
(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)**

- (a) to (c): The Election Laws (Amendment) Act, 2021, *inter alia*, amends the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1950, which allows Electoral Registration Officers to require the existing or prospective elector to provide the Aadhaar number for the purpose of establishing identity on a voluntary basis. The Election Commission of India (the Commission) *vide* its instruction dated 4th July, 2022, has launched the programme to collect the

Aadhaar number of existing and prospective electors on a voluntary basis from 1st August, 2022 in all States and Union territories. It is voluntary to link Aadhaar with Voter ID and consent is obtained from the elector for Aadhaar authentication in Form 6B. There is no provision for withdrawing the consent.

(d): No sir.

(e): The Commission is responsible under article 324 of the Constitution for superintendence, direction and control of preparation of electoral roll, and the Commission has informed that it maintains data with multi layered security architecture and the electoral data is encrypted in both static and transit.
