

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

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3820**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023**

**Use of Facial Recognition Technology in Elections**

**3820.** Dr. T. Sumathy (a) Thamizhachi Thangapandian:

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

- (a) whether the Election Commission of India is planning to pilot Facial Recognition Technology (FRT) in the upcoming elections of Union and States;
- (b) whether the FRT has been used both by the ECI and State Election Commissions in the past and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there exists a law under which the ECI derives its power to use FRT in the electoral process;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for the use of FRT in Elections without any legal backing; and
- (e) whether the ECI has conducted an assessment of privacy in relation to the safety of the data of the citizens before launching the FRT in the election process and if so, the details thereof?

**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): No sir.

(b): Does not arise in respect of Election Commission of India (ECI), in view of reply to (a) above. As far as the State Election Commissions are concerned, the same are not primarily responsible to the Government of India.

(c) to (e) : Does not arise, in view of reply to (a) above.

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