

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
Lok Sabha
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 463
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 28th November 2024)
FACIAL RECOGNITION TECHNOLOGY

463. SHRI RAJA RAM SINGH

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

(a) the protective measures taken to safeguard the data collected at Airports through biometric identification such as facial recognition by DigiYatra;

(b) whether a committee has been formed to look into the matters related to the use of facial recognition technology and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has tied up with any private or commercial parties for commercial utilization of the data, if so, the details thereof citing names of such companies and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for the area of data protection law?

ANSWER

**Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION
(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)**

(a) to (d): The Digi Yatra Central Ecosystem (DYCE) is built on the fundamental tenets of privacy. There is no central storage of passenger's Personally Identifiable Information (PII) data. All the passenger data is encrypted and stored in the passenger's smartphone wallet and shared only for a limited time duration with the origin airport where passenger ID needs to be validated. No data is collected at the airports. The verifiable data of passenger used

for processing at the airports under Digi Yatra is purged from the system after 24 hours of the departure of the flight. The entire Digi Yatra Central Ecosystem (DYCE) and Digi Yatra apps are compliant with the Digital Personal Data Protection Act.

There is no Committee formed to look into the matters related to the use of facial recognition technology. Government does not intend for commercial utilisation of the data.
