

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2550
ANSWERED ON-02.12.2010
EXPANSION OF UIDAI

2550 SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA

- (a) whether it is a fact that the single member UIDAI is unable to cope with diverse complex subjects like security, relevance and financial inclusion and administrative transparency;
- (b) the reasons for not expanding the UIDAI to make it more answerable and responsible to the country;
- (c) the objections in principle that have been voiced against making the UIDAI more broad based and open to diverse opinions; and
- (d) the steps proposed to expand the UIDAI to make it more accessible and open to suggestions and different views? ANSWER

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSION

(SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a): No, Sir. The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) was set up through Notification No. A-43011/02/2009-Admn.I dated 28th January, 2009 as an attached office of the Planning Commission. In continuation of this notification, a notification No. A-43011/02/2009-Admn.I (Vol.II) was issued on 2nd July 2009 appointing Shri Nandan Nilekani as Chairperson, UIDAI in the rank and status of a Cabinet Minister and for an initial tenure of five years. The UIDAI has been assigned the responsibility to lay down plan and policies to implement Unique Identification (UID) Scheme, own and operate UID database including its updation and maintenance on an ongoing basis. The implementation of the scheme entails, inter-alia, the responsibilities to generate and assign UID number to residents and define usage and applicability of UID for delivery of various services. UIDAI has the resources and expertise to deal with all the issues arising out of the implementation of the UID programme.

(b) to (d) : The UIDAI has been involved in a wide ranging consultation process since August, 2009. The consultation process has spanned the Government, private and civil society organisations across the country. The Authority is accountable to the Government and Parliament. The draft National Identification Authority of India Bill, 2010 had been placed on the website for comments and views before it was processed for approval for introduction in Parliament. The Bill has been slated for introduction in Rajya Sabha in Winter Session.