

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF PLANNING

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 257

ANSWERED ON 10.11.2010

UNIQUE IDENTIFICATION AUTHORITY OF INDIA

257 . Shri RAJAGOPAL LAGADAPATI

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Unique Identification Authority of India is facing problems in identifying the features of children as they have unstable biometric features till they attain the age of 15 years;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the iris too does not fully develop till 8 years of age; and**
- (d) if so, the procedure of UIDAI for handling these challenges and issuing UIDs to them?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) to (d): The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) conducted a Proof of Concept (PoC) study, wherein, biometric capture of children between 5-15 years of age was undertaken. The results of the exercise showed that biometrics of the children can be captured as in the case of adults for both fingerprints and Iris. Further the minutiae / templates were extracted from the captured biometrics and it was found that the children's biometrics is usable for UID enrolment as well as authentication. However, the biometrics of children will need to be updated once they attain the age of 15 years. Intimation to this effect is part of the text of the original letter communicating the Aadhaar number of enrolled children.