

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1540**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.07.2021

**FACIAL RECOGNITION TECHNOLOGY**

**1540. SHRI ABHISHEK BANERJEE:**

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- (a) whether the Government has studied and taken into consideration the privacy concerns of employing the Facial Recognition Technology (FRT) by the public and private sector;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the Central Government agencies which are currently employing or proposes to employ the said FRT technology; and;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to implement a system integrating Aadhaar with the FRT and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR)

(a) and (b): Facial recognition is a way of identifying or confirming an individual's identity using their face. Facial recognition systems can be used to identify people in photos, videos, or in real-time. Right to Privacy is an intrinsic part of the right to life and personal liberty under Article 21 of the Constitution. Any solutions employing Facial Recognition Technology should address the privacy concerns.

(c): Facial Recognition Technology is distinct from the Face Authentication mechanisms that utilise one-to-one face matching for authentication after obtaining consent of the individual. Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) is using one-to-one face matching for providing digital marksheets to students through a consent-based framework.

(d): No, Sir. UIDAI is only developing the Aadhaar based Face Authentication as which is currently in Proof of Concept (PoC) phase. Face authentication may be used as one of the authentication mechanisms apart from biometric and iris-based authentication procedures with the informed consent of the individual.

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