The Government of India has initiated the creation of National Population Register (NPR) by collecting specific information of all usual residents in the country during the Houselisting and Housing Census phase of Census 2011 during April 2010 to September 2010. The NPR is a comprehensive identity database to be maintained by the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India (RG&CCI), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. The objective of creation of the NPR is to help in better targeting of the benefits and services under the government schemes, improve planning, improve security and prevent identity fraud.

**NPR Process**

In the NPR process, following details are being gathered by designated enumerators by visiting each and every household:

(i) Name of the person (ii) Name of the person as should appear in National Population Register (iii) Relationship to Head (iv) Sex etc.....

The data thus collected will then be digitized in the local language of the State as well as in English. This digitization involves the scanning of the forms (NPR Schedules) and validating the data using an Intelligent Character Recognition Software (ICR). For this purpose, RGI has established a number of scanning centres across the country. The data thus scanned in the form of scanned images will then be manually digitized. ECIL, BEL and ITI have taken up this job for Bulk data digitization for all the Coastal States and UTs. ECIL, being a member of CPSU consortium is specifically entrusted with the digitization job in Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Orissa, Andaman & Nicobar. Estimated population to be covered by ECIL is approx. 19 crore. For this, ECIL is going to set up 20 Bulk Data Entry Centres. Once this demographic database has been created, then the biometrics enrolment (capture of 1 Photograph, 10 Finger Prints and Iris scan of both eyes) will be carried out for all persons aged 5 years and above by arranging enrolment camps in every village and at the ward level in every town. The collected data will be printed in the form of LRUR (Local Register of Usual Residents) and displayed at prominent places within the village and ward for inviting claims/objections from the public. Each of these claims/objections will then be enquired into by the Local Registrar (Local Revenue Official) and disposed off through a set process as per instructions of the Office of RGI. Once this process is over, the list will be placed before the Gram Sabha in villages and ward committee in towns for vetting the list of usual residents. Once the list cleared, the same would be authenticated by the District Collector / Magistrate. Corrections/modifications in the LRUR would then be carried out.

The information thus authenticated will then be sent to the UIDAI for de-duplication and issue of Unique Identification (UID) Numbers. The cleaned database along with the UID Number will then be sent back to the Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India (RG & CCI) and would form the National Population Register.

The NPR data with Unique ID number will be used by ECIL in its Tirupati Personalization Centre to create cards for the Residents with age of 18 years and above. The Application software for digitization & Biometric enrollment has been development by ECIL NPR Software team.

Prior to this NPR National Project, ECIL took part in NPR phase I Pilot project to collect primary data and enroll biometric data in Coastal villages of Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Orissa, Andaman & Nicobar. ECIL also successfully personalized and manufactured cards for selected districts of West Bengal, Tripura and U.P in Kolkata Perso Centre.