

Non-cloneable ID in pipeline for Delhi Police

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Delhi Police will be getting a world class, nanotechnology-based, 'non-cloneable,' identity card, before the commencement of Commonwealth Games 2010.

According to a senior in Delhi Police, the new ID card that will be known as a 'biometric card' would come into effect in the next two-three months. The decision to furnish such digital cards to the policemen was taken, keeping in mind the seriousness of the Commonwealth Games and the fact that the criminals have been forging the existing ID cards of police and were misusing them.

Joint Commissioner of Police (Northern Range) Karnal Singh, who is personally monitoring the project, said the new biometric cards will be based on modern technology. "These ID cards are non-forgable and non-cloneable. The pilot project is in progress and most probably it will come into effect before the Commonwealth Games. We are working on the project and taking suggestions from technical experts," said Joint Commissioner Singh. He added that the proposed card with nano-tags couldn't be duplicated. Asked if the proposed cards will be given only to senior officials, Singh said, "The cards will be provided to all Delhi Police officials."

Explaining the requirement of a smart ID card, a senior police officer, who is an expert in cyber crime, said, "There are cases where it was learnt that criminals committed the crime posing as Delhi Police officers. Last month, several fake ID cards of police were recovered from a few of the arrested criminals. Those criminals had targeted innocent people and robbed them of their belongings on the roads claiming to be policemen. To prevent such incidents Delhi Police decided to have non-forgable ID cards," said the official adding the proposed cards will contain all details about its holder.

"Right from the profile of its holder the card will have information about the belt number, his/her designation and year of joining besides a photograph. The proposed card will be smaller than the existing cards and will be digitally designed," he added. According to the official, after having the digital cards, chances of security breach during the approaching Commonwealth Games will be minimal. It will also help in curbing crime in the city. Delhi Police has engaged a private agency for issuing the 'smart digital' cards for its officials. The agency will be mandated to provide a fully protected and non-forgable ID cards.

Nanotechnology refers to the projected ability to construct items from the bottom up, using techniques and tools being developed these days to make complete, high performance products. These days nanotechnology is mostly used in the medical world and in the field of information technology.