प्रश्न सं. [ क. 814

डा० अजय भषण पांडे, भा.प्र.से. मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी Dr. Ajay Bhushan Pandey, IAS Chief Executive Officer



भारत सरकार Government of India भारतीय विशिष्ट पहचान प्राधिकरण Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) तीसरी मंजिल, टॉवर Ⅱ, जीवन भारती भवन, कनॉट सर्कस, नई दिल्ली-110001

3rd Floor, Tower II, Jeevan Bharati Building, Connaught Circus, New Delhi-110001

28th June, 2017

D.O. No.4(4)/57/146/2016/E&U/Vol.VI/Pt

Dear Chief Secretary,

Aadhaar has been issued to more than 115 crore people as on date. One of the major factors behind this phenomenal success is the active support and role of the state/UT governments in this endeavour. Hopefully, with our continued combined efforts, we would be able to create a permanent infrastructure for continued enrolment of new born/residual population, biometric update of children and demographic update due to migration and other changes in life stage of people.

- While doing so, you would appreciate that security and confidentiality of the residents' data has always been one of the key areas of concern. With the Aadhaar Act, 2016 coming into force, this aspect has become all the more important. Honourable Supreme Court of India while disposing of Writ Petition (Civil) No. 247 of 2017 and others dated 9.6.2017 in PAN- Aadhaar link case, has inter alia stated that:
- "....It is important that the aforesaid apprehensions are assuaged by taking proper measures so that confidence is instilled among the public at large that there is no chance of unauthorised leakage of data whether it is done by tightening the operations of the contractors who are given the job of enrollment, they being private persons or by prescribing severe penalties to those who are found guilty of leaking the details, is the outlook of the Government. However, we emphasise that measures in this behalf are absolutely essential and it would be in the fitness of things that proper scheme in this behalf is devised at the earliest...."
- At present, Aadhaar enrolment is largely being carried out by the private agencies at their centres scattered across the country where close and direct supervision of the state governments is not always feasible. In view of the above security concerns about biometric as well as other personal data and their leaks etc, it is pertinent that these operations are carried out in a more secure environment under the close supervision of the state government. Further, a large number of citizens have complained that many Aadhaar operators who run their centers from their private premises are indulging in corruption and overcharging residents because there is no immediate official supervision over such operators.
- In view of above and the order of the Supreme Court dated 9.6.2017, a decision has been taken to shift the enrolment centers from private and unsecured locations to secure government premises' such as those inside district collectorates/ Zilla Parishad offices/ municipal offices /block offices/taluka offices and other public delivery offices run by the state government where direct supervision by the government can be ensured.



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Since, now most government and other services such benefits, subsidies, and services like PAN, GST, Bank accounts, passport, land records, property registration etc will require Aadhaar, it will be necessary for the state governments to provide the facility of Aadhaar enrolments and updates at secure and convenient locations so that the citizens do not face any difficulties in accessing various public services linked to Aadhaar.

- 5. For this purpose, the state government may setup its own enrolment centers within the aforesaid government or municipal premises with their own personnel as enrolment operators. They may also engage any of the UIDAI's empanelled enrolment agencies and operators active in the region, after thoroughly reviewing their credentials in the region provided the enrolment centres are set up in government or municipal premises. Since, more than 99 % of adults have already been given Aadhaar, at least three centers in every taluka within government premises should be set up in the beginning and thereafter depending upon demand and availability of government premises, the number of such centers can be reviewed.
- 6. Therefore, I would request that all such centers in government premises (at least three centers in every block/Taluka in urban and rural areas) for Aadhaar enrolment and update should be identified by July 31st, 2017 and the process to shift enrolment operations to these centers should be completed by August 31st, 2017.
- 7. I would request that an action plan from the State Governments in this regard may kindly be sent to us.

Regards.

Yours sincerely,

(Dr. Ajay Bhushan Pandey)

All the Chief Secretaries of State Governments