

The Odisha Gazette

EXTRAORDINARY
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

No. 3494 CUTTACK, MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2022/MARGASIRA 28, 1944

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY & EMPOWERMENT OF
PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

NOTIFICATION

The 15th December 2022

SUBJECT—Notification for requirement of Aadhaar under Section 7 of Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 (“Aadhaar Act”) for “National Social Assistance Programme (IGNOAP, IGNDP, IGNWP & NFBS)”

No. 9447—SSEPD-SS-II-SCHM-0001/2022-SSEPD.—Whereas, the use of Aadhaar as a document of identity for delivery of services or benefits or subsidies simplifies the Government delivery processes, brings in transparency and efficiency, and enables beneficiaries to get their entitlements directly in a convenient and seamless manner by obviating the need to produce multiple documents to prove one’s identity;

And whereas, the Department of Social Security and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (hereinafter referred to as the department) is administering the National Social Assistance Program (NSAP) (hereinafter referred to as the scheme) in the State to provide social security pension to the poor, destitute and socio-economically vulnerable section of people which is being implemented through the districts and blocks (hereinafter referred to as the implementing agencies);

And whereas, under the scheme financial assistance (herein referred to as the benefit) is given to old-age, widow, persons with disabilities and vulnerable individuals (hereinafter referred to as the beneficiaries), by the implementing agency as per the extant scheme guidelines;

And whereas, the scheme involves recurring expenditure incurred from the consolidated fund of both India and Odisha.

Now, therefore, in pursuance of the provisions of Section 7 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 (18 of 2016) (Aadhaar Act), and in supersession of the Notification No. 4953, dated the 3rd July 2020 of the Social Security and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Department, the Government in Social Security and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Department hereby notifies the following, namely :—

1. (i) An individual desirous of availing himself or herself of the benefit under the scheme shall hereby be required to furnish proof of possession of Aadhaar Number or undergoing Aadhaar authentication.
- (ii) Any individual desirous of availing himself or herself of the benefit under the Scheme who doesn't possess the Aadhaar Number or, has not yet been enrolled for Aadhaar, shall be required to make application for Aadhaar enrolment provided that she or he is entitled to obtain Aadhaar as per the provisions of Section 3 of the said Act, such individuals shall visit any Aadhaar enrolment centre (list available at www.uidai.gov.in) to get enrolled for Aadhaar.
- (iii) As per regulation 12 of the Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) Regulations, 2016, the department through its implementing agency, is required to offer Aadhaar enrolment facilities for the beneficiaries who are not yet enrolled for Aadhaar and in case there is no Aadhaar enrolment centre located within the respective Block/Tahsil, the department through its implementing agency shall provide Aadhaar enrolment facilities at convenient locations in coordination with the existing Registrars of UIDAI or by becoming UIDAI Registrar themselves; provided that till the time Aadhaar is assigned to the individual, she or he shall be allowed to avail the benefit under the Scheme under the said act subject to the production of the following documents, namely :—
 - a. if he has enrolled, his Aadhaar Enrolment Identification Slip, and
 - b. any one of the following documents, namely :—
 - (i) Bank or Post Office Passbook with Photo; or
 - (ii) Permanent Account Number (PAN) Card; or
 - (iii) Passport; or
 - (iv) Ration Card; or
 - (v) Voter Identity Card; or
 - (vi) MGNREGA Card; or
 - (vii) Kisan Photo Passbook; or
 - (viii) Driving License issued by the Licensing Authority under the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988 (59 of 1988); or
 - (ix) Certificate of identity having photo of such person issued by a Gazetted Officer or a Tahsildar on an official letter head; or
 - (x) Any other document as specified by the department:

Provided further that the aforesaid documents shall be checked by an officer specifically designated by the department for that purpose.

2. In order to provide benefits to the beneficiaries under the scheme conveniently, the department through its implementing agencies shall make all the required arrangements to ensure that wide publicity through media is given to make the beneficiaries aware of the requirement of Aadhaar under the scheme.

3. In all cases, where Aadhaar authentication fails due to poor biometrics of the beneficiaries or due to any other reason, the following remedial mechanisms shall be adopted, namely :—

- (a) in case of poor fingerprint quality, iris scan or face authentication facility shall be adopted for authentication, thereby the department through its implementing agency shall make provisions for iris scanners or face authentication along with fingerprint authentication for delivery of benefits in seamless manner;
- (b) in case the biometric authentication through fingerprints or iris scan or face authentication is not successful, wherever feasible and admissible authentication by Aadhaar One Time Password or Time-based One Time Password with limited time validity, as the case may be, shall be offered;
- (c) in all other cases where biometric or Aadhaar One Time Password or Time-based One Time Password authentication is not possible, benefits under the scheme may be given on the basis of physical Aadhaar letter whose authenticity can be verified through the Quick Response Code printed on the Aadhaar letter and the necessary arrangement of Quick Response Code reader shall be provided at the convenient locations by the department through its implementing agency.

4. In order to ensure that no *bona fide* beneficiary under the scheme is deprived of his or her due benefits, the concerned department of Government of Odisha shall follow the exception handling mechanism as specified in the Office Memorandum of Direct Benefit Transfer Mission, Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India No. D-26011/04/2017-DBT, dated the 19th December 2017 (copy enclosed).

5. This notification shall come into effect from the date of its publication.

By order of the Governor

BHASKAR JYOTI SARMA

Commissioner-*cum*-Secretary to Government

[No. D-26011/04/2017-DBT]
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CABINET SECRETARIAT
(DBT Mission)

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

The 19th December 2017

SUBJECT—Use of Aadhaar in Benefit Schemes of Government-Exception Handling-Regarding.

Aadhaar based DBT is a significant Governance reform to ensure greater transparency and accountability in public service delivery through effective use of technology. Aadhaar as an identity proof obviates the need for producing multiple documents for proving one's identity, thereby simplifying procedures and eliminating fake/ghost beneficiaries through deduplication.

2. However, Government is sensitive to the fact that the Aadhaar enrolment process has not been completed and infrastructure constraints may pose difficulty in online authentication. To ensure that *bona fide* beneficiaries are not deprived of their due benefits, sufficient provisions have been made in the Aadhaar Act, 2016. UIDAI has also issued regulations to handle exceptions, ensuring that no beneficiary is denied benefits for want of Aadhaar, vide circular dated the 24th October 2017 (copy enclosed for ready reference). In accordance with the guidelines issued by UIDAI from time to time, the following may be considered:

- A. For extending benefits to beneficiaries who do not possess Aadhaar, the following mechanism may be adopted:—
- (i) The beneficiary shall be provided subsidy, benefit or service based on alternate identification document as notified in the relevant notifications issued under the provisions of Section 7 of the Aadhaar Act, 2016.
 - (ii) Efforts should be made to ensure that all such beneficiaries are facilitated for enrolment under Aadhaar. The concerned department through its implementing agencies may offer Aadhaar enrolment facilities for such beneficiaries at convenient locations through centres in the respective Block/Taluka/Tehsil (including through Post Offices, Banks, ICDS Centres etc.)
 - (iii) As per Regulation 12 of Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) Regulations, 2016 the State Government/Implementing Agencies should also make special arrangements for bed ridden, differently-abled or senior citizens, who are unable to visit the registration centre(s), to get them enrolled for Aadhaar.
 - (iv) Till such time Aadhaar is assigned to a beneficiary, a separate register, preferably electronic, shall be maintained for recording such transactions, whenever the beneficiary is provided benefits/services on the basis of alternative identification documents. This register may be periodically reviewed and audited.
- B. In all such cases where Aadhaar authentication fails, the following mechanism may be adopted:—
- (i) Departments and Bank Branches may make provisions for IRIS scanners along with fingerprint scanners, wherever feasible.
 - (ii) In case of failure due to lack of connectivity, offline authentication system such as QR Code based coupons, Mobile based OTP or TOTP may be explored.

(iii) In all cases where online authentication is not feasible, the benefit/service may be provided on the basis of possession of Aadhaar, after duly recording the transaction in register, to be reviewed and audited periodically.

3. In view of above, DBT implementing Ministries/Departments and State Governments are requested to implement proper exception handling mechanism in conformity with the Aadhaar Act, 2016 and subsequent regulations and guidelines issued from time to time. A robust mechanism for ensuring their compliance and its periodic monitoring may also be put in place.

ARUN SHARMA
Director (DBT)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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CIRCULAR

The 24th October 2017

SUBJECT—Exception handling in Public Distribution Services and other Welfare Schemes

No. 23011—Gen/2014-Legal-UIDAI—Section 7 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 provides that :

“The Central Government or, as the case may be, the State Government may for the purpose of establishing identity of an individual as a condition for receipt of a subsidy, benefit or service for which the expenditure is incurred from or the receipt therefrom forms part of the Consolidated Fund of India, require that such individual undergo authentication, or furnish proof of possession of Aadhaar Number or in the case of an individual to whom no Aadhaar Number has been assigned such individual makes an application for enrolment:

Provided that if and Aadhaar Number is not assigned to an individual, the individual shall be offered alternate and viable means of identification for delivery of the subsidy benefit or service.”

2. Various Ministries/Departments have issued notification under Section 7 of Aadhaar Act to require Aadhaar/Aadhaar authentication for delivery of various benefits, subsidies or service for which the expenditure is incurred from, or the receipt therefrom forms part of the Consolidated Fund of India.

3. It has come to notice that some beneficiaries are being denied the benefit, subsidy or service for various reasons such as not having Aadhaar, failure of authentication and other extraneous circumstances like electricity outage, internet connectivity issues etc despite above provisions of Aadhaar Act and other adequate mechanisms to handle such exceptions already provided in the regulations and notifications issued under Section 7.

4. Therefore, the following exception handling mechanism and back-up identity authentication mechanisms may be followed for implementation to ensure seamless delivery of subsidy, benefit or service to beneficiary:

- (a) Till the time Aadhaar is assigned to a beneficiary, he/she shall be provided, subsidy, benefit or service based on alternate identification document as notified by the Ministry/ Department in the relevant notification issued under the provision of Section 7 of the Aadhaar Act, 2016. The notifications also give powers to both Central Ministry and State Governments (as the case may be) to add more alternate documents depending on local conditions.
- (b) In case of failure of Biometric authentication due to network/connectivity issue or due to poor biometric of resident etc., he/she shall be provided subsidy, benefit or service based on possession of Aadhaar by him/her as provided in Section 7 of the Aadhaar Act, 2016 and the notification.

- (c) In case of a family based scheme, such as PDS, an option shall be provided that any member of the family can authenticate and receive the benefit, as notified by the Ministry/Department in the relevant notification issued under the provision of Section 7 of the Aadhaar Act, 2016. This flexibility should be used for ensuring delivery of benefit in case biometric authentication for a member (senior) fails.
- (d) The State Governments/Implementing Agency should also make special arrangements for bed ridden senior residents to get them verified/authenticated including but not limited to sending a village level worker to their home for this purpose.
- (e) All such exception handling shall be recorded in the system and steps be taken to avoid any misuse of the exception. The front end service provider shall also maintain record of exception such as copy of Aadhaar letter, signature/thumbprint of the beneficiary and other supporting documents as notified by the Ministry/Department.
- (f) The Ministry/Department shall devise and implement mechanism for audit and inspection of such exceptions.

5. The Ministries/Department are requested to issue appropriate directions to the State Governments/Implementing Agencies for the above exception handling mechanism and also monitor the same on periodical basis.

DR. AJAY BHUSHAN PANDEY
Chief Executive Officer