

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3396
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9TH AUGUST, 2023**

AADHAAR SEEDING IN RATION CARDS

3396. DR. K. JAYAKUMAR:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the status of Aadhaar seeding in Ration Cards in the country;
- (b) whether ration cards are being cancelled in the country due to non-possession of Aadhaar ID or failure in biometric authentication;
- (c) if so, the details of rationale behind the cancellation of Ration Cards;
- (d) whether the Government is cognizant of the starvation death incidents reported due to denial of foodgrains as the victims failed to link Aadhaar to Ration Cards; and
- (e) if so, the details of actions taken to avoid such incidents?

**A N S W E R
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)**

(a): Presently, 99.7% ration cards are Aadhaar seeded in the country. State-wise detail is attached as Annexure-I.

(b) to (e): This Department has extended the timeline given to the States/UTs, under the Notification dated 08/02/2017 (as amended from time to time) issued in exercise of Section-7 of the Aadhaar Act 2016, for completing the Aadhaar seeding of ration cards up to 30/09/2023. Until then, all States/UTs have been advised that no genuine beneficiary/household shall be deleted from the list of eligible ration cards/beneficiaries and shall not be denied their entitled quota of foodgrains under NFSA only for want of Aadhaar number or only on the ground of not possessing an Aadhaar number, failure of biometric authentication due to network/ connectivity/ linking issues or any other technical reasons etc.

However, as per the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) Control Order 2015, the review of ration cards/beneficiaries list, identification of ineligible/ duplicate ration cards and inclusion of genuine eligible beneficiaries/households is the responsibility of the concerned State/UT Government, and the benefit of deleted ration cards is utilized by States/UTs for targeting/addition of new beneficiaries/ration cards subject to State/UT wise ceiling on coverage under National Food Security Act (NFSA) 2013. This Department has time-to-time conveyed instructions / communications to States/UTs for de-duplication of beneficiaries / ration cards. Further, there is no report of starvation deaths from any States/UTs. Under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY), w.e.f. 1st January 2023 free of cost foodgrains are being provided to around 80 crore NFSA beneficiaries as per their entitlements for a period of one year.

States/UTs have been advised to undertake proper verification (including field verification) of each identified case to ensure that ration cards of genuine beneficiaries are not deleted/ suspended. Accordingly, the State/UT Governments periodically review their lists of ration card holders to weed out potentially ineligible, duplicate/fake beneficiaries / ration cards from their respective systems, after proper verification as per their prescribed norms. Further, States/UTs continuously review the beneficiaries list and issue new ration cards to the eligible households/beneficiaries in place of duplicate / cancelled beneficiaries / ration cards under the prescribed ceiling limit of the National Food Security Act (NFSA), to achieve the rightful targeting of subsidised foodgrains.

Annexure-I**ANNEXURE REFERED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3396 FOR ANSWER ON 09.08.2023 IN THE LOK SABHA**

State-wise Details of Ration Cards and Aadhaar Seeding				
S. N.	States/UTs	Total Ration Cards in Central System	No. of Ration Cards with Aadhaar	% Seeding of Ration Cards
1	Andaman and Nicobar Island	16,797	16,797	100%
2	Andhra Pradesh	90,27,011	90,27,011	100%
3	Arunachal Pradesh*	1,80,563	1,54,521	86%
4	Assam	56,29,116	55,92,065	99%
5	Bihar	1,79,00,511	1,79,00,511	100%
6	Chandigarh	72,119	71,815	100%
7	Chhattisgarh	53,00,590	52,98,626	100%
8	Dadra & NH and Daman Diu	58,020	58,020	100%
9	Delhi	17,83,280	17,83,280	100%
10	Goa	1,30,676	1,28,810	99%
11	Gujarat	76,12,435	76,06,855	100%
12	Haryana	34,71,028	34,71,028	100%
13	Himachal Pradesh	7,55,122	7,53,409	100%
14	Jammu & Kashmir	16,59,893	16,59,876	100%
15	Jharkhand	60,71,468	60,17,704	99%
16	Karnataka	1,13,84,605	1,13,84,605	100%
17	Kerala	41,38,490	41,38,484	100%
18	Ladakh	29,533	29,533	100%
19	Lakshadweep*	4,738	4,275	90%
20	Madhya Pradesh	1,25,62,665	1,25,61,445	100%
21	Maharashtra	1,55,25,890	1,55,25,890	100%
22	Manipur	5,68,010	5,65,119	99%
23	Meghalaya*	4,21,542	2,36,746	56%
24	Mizoram	1,70,002	1,68,941	99%
25	Nagaland*	3,23,449	3,12,837	97%
26	Odisha	92,91,068	92,51,962	100%
27	Puducherry	1,91,486	1,91,334	100%

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28	Punjab	38,38,733	38,38,281	100%
29	Rajasthan	1,07,15,611	1,07,08,904	100%
30	Sikkim	97,716	97,439	100%
31	Tamil Nadu	1,14,65,491	1,14,65,442	100%
32	Telangana	54,52,538	54,52,538	100%
33	Tripura	6,03,175	6,03,123	100%
34	Uttarakhand	13,93,357	13,93,270	100%
35	Uttar Pradesh	3,60,33,236	3,60,30,392	100%
36	West Bengal	1,41,60,769	1,39,63,862	99%
National Summary		19,80,40,733	19,74,64,750	99.7%

As per the data reported by States/UTs.

*Complete coverage of Ration Cards seeding with Aadhaar is awaited due to delay in Aadhar enrolment in few States/UTs (i.e. Arunachal Pradesh, Lakshadweep, Meghalaya and Nagaland)
