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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 181**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY THE 18<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2019  
27 KARTIKA, 1941 (SAKA)**

**"PAN-AADHAR LINKING"**

**181: SHRI DHAIRYASHEEL, SHRI SAMHAJIRAO MANE, SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA, SHRI SANJAY SADASHIV RAO MANDLIK, SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of account holders having their Aadhaar linked with Permanent Account Number (PAN) cards;
- (b) whether the Government has made the linking of PAN with Aadhaar number mandatory and if so, the details thereof along with the objectives behind this move;
- (c) whether very senior citizens are also required to link their Aadhaar card with PAN card and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the manner in which it is likely to benefit the PAN card holders;
- (e) whether the Government has fixed any timeframe to complete the said procedure and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the measures taken by the Government to ensure that such sensitive data is not leaked from organizations handling this data?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)**

- (a) The number of Permanent Account Numbers (PANs) which are linked with Aadhaar Number as on 11.11.2019 is **29,30,74,520**.
- (b) Yes Sir. As per sub-section (1) of section 139AA of the Income-tax Act, 1961 (Act), every person who was eligible to obtain Aadhaar Number, w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2017 has to **quote** the Aadhaar in the application form for allotment of PAN and in the return of income.

Further, as per sub-section (2) of section 139AA of the Act, every person who was a PAN holder as on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2017 who was otherwise eligible to obtain Aadhaar Number has to **intimate** his/her Aadhaar to such authority in such form and manner as may be prescribed, on or before a date to be notified by the Central Government in the Official Gazette. This process is commonly known as Linking of PAN with Aadhaar. Vide Notification bearing G.S.R. No. 642(E) dated 27.06.2017, the Principal Director General of Income-tax (Systems) had been notified as the 'prescribed authority' to whom the Aadhaar Number has to be intimated by a person who was having PAN as on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2017. Further, vide Notification bearing S.O.No.1495(E) dated 31.03.2019, the Central Government specified 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 as the due date for linking the PAN with Aadhaar Number, which was subsequently extended till 31.12.2019 vide Notification bearing S.O. No. 3539(E) dated 28.09.2019.

The objective behind this move is to ensure unique identity of the PAN card holders and to weed out undetected duplicate PANs. This is also essential to prevent misuse of PANs and potential tax frauds.

(c) Vide Notification bearing S.O.No.1513(E) dated 11.05.2017, senior citizens of the age 80 years or more at any time during the previous year who do not possess the Aadhaar Number or the Enrollment ID are exempt from the applicability of section 139AA of the Act.

(d) It will ensure uniqueness of PAN and prevent applicants/entities from obtaining multiple PANs.

(e) As per the Notification bearing S.O.No.3539(E) dated 28.09.2019, the linking of PAN with Aadhaar Number has to be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2019.

(f) Appropriate measures have been taken in terms of provisions of the Income-tax Act, 1961, Information Technology Act, 2000 and other applicable laws to ensure that the confidentiality of data is maintained. The security assurance of Aadhaar ecosystem strengthened with enactment of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 and subsequently the Aadhaar and Other Laws (Amendment) Act, 2019 which has stringent penalties/punishments for offenders.

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