

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1404
ANSWERED ON 09/12/2025**

AADHAAR-BASED SCHEMES AND PROGRAMMES

1404. Shri Adhikari Deepak Dev:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of schemes and programmes initiated by the Government which require Aadhaar card to access public benefits;**
- (b) whether the Government has made it mandatory for beneficiaries to have an Aadhaar card to access benefits, if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether there have been cases reported where benefits were not provided to people on non-availability of Aadhaar card, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) whether the Government accepts documents excluding Aadhaar card, if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI KAMLESH PASWAN)**

(a) to (d): As per the information provided by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) issues Aadhaar to the residents of India and provides authentication services for identity verification of Aadhaar holder. The scheme implementing Ministries/Departments of Central and State Governments use Aadhaar in their schemes/programmes for transparent delivery of benefits, by establishing identity of individual.

As per section 7 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016, Aadhaar may be required by the Government for certain schemes, which are funded from Consolidated Fund of India/State, for verifying the

identity of beneficiaries to prevent fraud and ensure that the benefits reach the right people.

The Act also states that if someone doesn't have Aadhaar, they cannot be denied benefits. In such cases, they have to apply for Aadhaar and till the time, the Aadhaar is not issued, they can use alternative identity documents to access the scheme. This ensures that no eligible person is excluded from government schemes due to a lack of Aadhaar.

As on date, more than 2800 government schemes have been notified under section 7 of the Aadhaar Act for use of Aadhaar.

Further, section 4(6) of the Aadhaar Act mandates that every user department/agency shall inform to the Aadhaar number holder of alternate and viable means of identification and shall not deny any service to him for refusing to, or being unable to, undergo authentication.

Also, Section 4(7) of the act states that mandatory authentication of an Aadhaar number holder for the provision of any service shall take place only if such authentication is required by a law made by Parliament.

In line with this framework, Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) clarifies that Aadhaar is used in its major schemes primarily to ensure transparency and direct benefit transfer. However, MoRD reiterates that no eligible beneficiary is denied benefits due to non-availability of Aadhaar, and alternative identity documents are accepted until Aadhaar is issued.
