November 2, 2016

Dear Secretary,

As you may be aware, the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 has come into force w.e.f. 12th September, 2016. To give effect to the provisions of the Act, UIDAI has also made regulations under the Aadhaar Act, which too have been notified in the official gazette.

2. Section 7 of the Aadhaar Act enables use of Aadhaar as condition precedent for services and benefits flowing from Consolidated Fund of India, provided no service / benefit is denied for want of Aadhaar. Similarly, Section 57 of the Act provides for use of Aadhaar as primary identification for any lawful purpose and can be invoked for services where money is not spent from the Consolidated Fund of India, such as issue of SIM cards, KYC for opening bank accounts, pension accounts, etc.

3. In order to do so legally, the concerned Ministry/Department or the agencies in their jurisdiction should amend their own rules, issue circulars, orders or guidelines under their laws thereby prescribing use of Aadhaar under Section 7 or Section 57 of the Aadhaar Act, as the case may be, conforming to data protection and privacy provisions provided in the Act (Section 8 and Chapter VI). Detailed guideline for notifying use of Aadhaar identity is enclosed along with UIDAI circular dated 15.09.2016 and another circular of M/o Petroleum & Natural Gas dated 30.09.2016 for ready reference.

4. DBT Mission has undertaken an exhaustive exercise in consultations with Ministries/ Departments and identified approx. 500 schemes which are DBT compliant. Necessary instructions have been issued for on boarding of these schemes on DBT platform including notification of identified schemes under Section 7 of Aadhaar Act in consultation with UIDAI. In addition to the schemes identified by DBT Mission, I would request that your Ministry may expeditiously undertake an exercise to identify schemes and services falling in two categories (Sec 7 & Sec 57 of the Aadhaar Act); and issue necessary notifications for use of Aadhaar as condition precedent as well as primary identifier in consultation with UIDAI to ensure that notifications comply with the requirements of the Aadhaar Act.

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4. However, it may be noted that subsidy and other benefits should not be denied only on the reason that the person does not possess Aadhaar and as envisaged in Section 7 of the Aadhaar Act, temporary enrollment details of Aadhaar or Photo Identify Card, Bank passbook etc., of the person can be considered till Aadhaar number is obtained which may be facilitated by the Ministries / Departments as also envisaged in circular dated 15th September 2016 of UIDAI. I would appreciate if the above exercise is completed by 30th November, 2016.

Warm regards

Yours sincerely,

(Sanjay Kumar Srivastava)

To

All Secretaries to Government of India