

Govt. of India / भारत सरकार
Cabinet Secretariat / मंत्रिमंडल सचिवालय
Direct Benefit Transfer Mission / प्रत्यक्ष लाभ अंतरण मिशन

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF SECRETARIES

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Venue: Committee Room, Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan

Date of Meeting: Monday, the 23rd November, 2015

Time of Meeting: 12.30 PM.

PRESENT

1. Sh. Pradeep Kumar Sinha, Cabinet Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat.
2. Sh. Sanjay Kumar Srivastava, Secretary (C& PG), Cabinet Secretariat
3. Sh. Rajiv Mehrishi, Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs.
4. Smt. Reeta Vasisht, Additional Secretary, Legislative Department.
5. Sh. Dinesh Bhardwaj, Additional Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs.
6. Sh. J.S. Deepak, Secretary, DeitY.
7. Dr. C. Chandramauli, RGI, Registrar General of India.
8. Sh. TuhinKanta Pandey, Joint Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat.
9. Sh. Peeyush Kumar, Joint Secretary (DBT), Cabinet Secretariat.
10. Dr. Shreeranjana, Deputy Director of General, UIDAI.
11. Smt. Radha Chauhan, Deputy Director of General, UIDAI.
12. Sh. Y.L.P. Rao, Deputy Director of General, UIDAI.
13. Sh. S.K. Chakrabarti, Additional RGI, Registrar General Of India.
14. Sh. G.S. Shekhawat, Director (DBT), Cabinet Secretariat.
15. Sh. Jugnu Gupta, Director (PMD), Cabinet Secretariat.

Sub: Meeting on Aadhaar Enrolment

A meeting of Committee of Secretaries (CoS) was held under Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary at 12.30 pm on 23.11.2015 in Committee Room, Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan to discuss the strategy for Aadhaar enrolment as per the target set by the Government during PRAGATI review in respect of UIDAI and RGI States.

2. Secretary (DeitY) gave a presentation on Aadhaar and informed that the Hon'ble Supreme Court has permitted the use of Aadhaar on voluntary basis in MGNREGA, PAHAL, PDS in Food & Kerosene, NSAP, PMJDY and EPFO. He further informed that DG, UIDAI had sought opinion of Attorney General on the extent of applicability of Interim Order of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 15.10.2015. Ld. AG advised the following:-

- a) Aadhaar enrolment and voluntarily seeding in databases is permissible.
- b) Resident can use Aadhaar for identification purposes.
- c) Channelizing DBT through PMJDY on voluntary basis is also allowed.
- d) However sharing of biometric data with various departments is prohibited.

It was pointed out that DBT using regular bank accounts is out of the purview of the Court's order, as it was never under question. However, DBT using Aadhaar would be subject to restrictions placed by the Court.

3. DeitY informed that out of total population of 128 crore, Aadhaar numbers have been generated for about 93.5 crore persons and the balance population of 34.5 crore (10.85 crore in RGI states and 23.65 crore in UIDAI states) needs to be enrolled as follows:-

To be enrolled in UIDAI States

(In crores)

States	Age 0-<5 years	Age 5-<18 years	Age 18 years and above	Total
Uttar Pradesh	2.1	4	1.5	7.6
Bihar	1.2	2.1	1.4	4.7
Gujarat	0.5	0.7	0.6	1.8
Rajasthan	0.7	1	0.08	1.78
Madhya Pradesh	0.6	0.7	0.38	1.68
Maharashtra	0.7	0.6	0.3	1.6
Karnataka	0.4	0.4	0.3	1.1
Total	6.2	9.5	4.56	20.26

Remaining Population				
States	Age 0-5 years	Age 5-18 years	Age 18 years and above	Total
Assam	0.3	0.9	1.9	3.1
West Bengal	0.7	0.9	0.9	2.5
Tamil Nadu	0.5	0.6	0.8	1.9
Odisha	0.3	0.4	0.4	1.1
Total	1.8	2.8	4	8.6

4. It was mentioned that Aadhaar enrolment for population above 18 years of age will be completed by December, 2015. However, regarding Aadhaar enrolment of children below 18 years of age, the target set for March, 2016 may be ambitious and that it may spill over to June, 2016. This is particularly true for RGI States where, as stated by RGI the existing Cabinet decision required them to enrol children of 5 years and above only, and a revised decision for children less than 5 years was needed.

5. DeitY also informed that with enrolment of Aadhaar reaching threshold levels in many States and consequent increase in the marginal costs, the model of self financing of private enrolment agencies is becoming non-remunerative. Therefore, going forward, permanent Aadhaar enrolment centres need to be established by the State / district administration. This could be attempted by multiple-enrolment-agency approach utilizing computer at disposal of various governmental functionaries in the field such as Panchayats, Aganwadi centres, Schools, Community Service Centres – e-seva kendras, Post offices, banks etc. The approach will be effective not only for fresh enrolment of left over cases, but also for regular updation of data such as change in address, name etc. on regular basis.

6. RGI informed that the NPR updation exercise is nearing completion in most of the States. This exercise will throw up data for mapping village / habitation level households covered under Aadhaar and can be utilized for targeting left over cases for Aadhaar enrolment effectively. RGI also informed that a proposal has been mooted with the DBT Mission to establish permanent enrolment centres at Tahsil / Taluk level as 'hubs' and various enrolment centres at village level as

'Spokes'. This provides a template for establishing permanent enrolment centres integrating the twin approaches under NPR and Aadhaar.

7. Regarding enrolment of children below 5 years, Secretary Coordination informed that the issue was discussed in detail with RGI and UIDAI. In view of the fact that RGI has expressed difficulty in extending enrolment to children below 5 years, as the Cabinet approval has to be solicited afresh, it was advised that MHA may take appropriate action for seeking approval of the competent authority. RGI further expressed difficulty in taking up the enrolment afresh as all the contracts with enrolment agencies at the field level are nearing completion, on one hand and on other hand, it has been decided to complete the enrolment of 0-5 years age for Aadhaar by 31st March, 2016. Home Secretary agreed that the matter will be examined in MHA and an appropriate action will be taken either for extending enrolment to children below 5 years in RGI States or by handing over the same to UIDAI. Secretary (Deity) mentioned that it will be difficult for UIDAI to take up only the enrolment of age group 0-5 years from 11 States allotted to RGI, if the age-group 5 years above continues to be handled by RGI as per the Government decision.

8. Home Secretary stated that RGI is preparing National Register for Indian Citizens under the Indian Citizenship Act. As per the provisions of the Citizenship Act, RGI has the mandate to collect biometric of all residents and updating National Population Register as a precursor to National Citizenship Register. To avoid duplicative effort, it was decided by the Cabinet that UIDAI & RGI will collect biometric and other information in allotted States for generation of Aadhaar by UIDAI, and mutually share the information. If UIDAI would not part with biometric information with RGI for NPR, the statutory mandate of preparing the National Citizen Register will be obstructed. Secretary Deity informed that under the present dispensation, biometric data cannot be shared by any other agency till the legal issues are settled. However, authentication is permissible under certain schemes permitted by the Court in its Interim Orders. MHA was advised that they may seek advice of Attorney General in this regard.

9. Secretary (Deity) informed that UIDAI is in discussion with AG regarding drafting fresh Rules under IT Act for giving data collection and protection under Aadhaar a legal backing. It was observed that this issue may be examined after AG's advice on the matters raised by MHA was available.

10. After detailed discussions, the following decisions were taken:-

- (i) Ministry of Home Affairs may take a view for seeking mandate of Aadhaar enrolment of children below 5 years of age or consider assigning the complete work of Aadhaar enrolment to UIDAI for the remaining population in the States allotted to RGI.
- (ii) Ministry of Home Affairs may seek opinion of Attorney General on the issue of sourcing of biometric data from UIDAI for preparing National Register for Indian Citizens under the Indian Citizenship Act.
- (iii) UIDAI and RGI will accelerate efforts to ensure Aadhaar enrolment of age group 18 years and above by 31st December, 2015, and age group 5-18 years by 31st March, 2016. As regards the age group 0-5 years, MHA may decide expeditiously on the issue so that Aadhaar enrolment of this age group is completed substantively by 31st March, 2016 and remaining by 30th June, 2016.
