

Linking of public service to UID cards

1325. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether UIDAI has identified the public services which can be linked to UID cards;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) in what manner UIDAI is coordinating with States, Central Government, public and private sector agencies with regard to delivery of public services; and
- (d) by when UIDAI is going to issue Aadhar Cards to all the people of this country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) Aadhaar aims to provide a soft identity infrastructure which can be used to re-engineer public services so that these lead to efficient and better delivery of services. Enrollment for obtaining Aadhaar number is voluntary and not mandatory. A resident is entitled to obtain an Aadhaar number on providing demographic and biometric information. The State Governments and Central Government Ministries have been advised to review the various schemes for service delivery and utilize and leverage Aadhaar as a platform for service delivery. They have also been requested to examine recognizing Aadhaar as a Proof of Identity (PoI) and Proof of Address (PoA) in the various resident centric schemes. Aadhaar has been recognized as an officially valid document as PoI and PoA for opening bank accounts and obtaining mobile telephone and LPG connections. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has issued necessary instructions for recognition of Aadhaar as PoI and PoA for obtaining a driving licence and registration of vehicles. The Department of Health and Family Welfare has also recognized Aadhaar as PoI and PoA for extending financial assistance to patients below poverty line who are suffering from major life threatening diseases for receiving medical treatment at any of the super specialty Hospitals/Institutions or other Government Hospitals under Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi. Ministry of Railways has also recognized Aadhaar as a valid PoI for rail travel. Some of the State Governments and Central Government Ministries/Departments have also recognized Aadhaar as PoI and PoA for their various resident centric schemes.

(d) UIDAI was earlier mandated to enroll 20 crore residents which has been completed, and enrolment of additional 40 crore residents mandated to be completed by March 2014, has commenced.

Model rules and guidelines for implementation of PESA

1326. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3339 given in the Rajya Sabha on 9th December, 2010 and state:

(a) the outcome of the Committee set up under Member-Secretary, Planning Commission, to work out mechanisms for marketing Minor Forest Produce and related provisions of the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006; and

(b) the progress in the adoption by the State Government concerned of draft Model Rules and Guidelines for the implementation of Panchayat Extension to the Scheduled Areas (PESA) in the nine Fifth Schedule States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) The Committee set up under the chairpersonship of Member Secretary, Planning Commission has concluded its work and has made various recommendations which include (i) Constitution of a Central Price Fixation Commission for Minor Forest Produce (MFP) as an autonomous body under Ministry of Tribal Affairs, (ii) Operationalizing Minimum Support Price for important MFPs through the Commission, and (iii) Ministry of Environment and Forests to carry out the amendments in the Indian Forest Act, 1927 and the related State Forest Acts to harmonize them with PESA and the Forest Rights Act and to harmonize the Working Plan Code for Forests with PESA and the Forest Rights Act. The nodal Ministry for the implementation of the scheme for Minimum Support Price (MSP) for MFPs is the Ministry of Tribal Affairs which is taking action for obtaining necessary approvals to the scheme.

(b) The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) has informed that the Model PESA Rules were drafted and circulated by MoPR in 2009 to all PESA States for framing rules for effective implementation of PESA. Guidelines on implementation of PESA were also issued to all nine PESA States on 21st May, 2010. Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan have framed rules for implementation of PESA. Other States are being persuaded to take necessary action for framing rules for