

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI K. J. ALPHONS): (a) and (b) No, Sir. CSC has not been allotted licence to work as payment gateways.

(c) Till February, 2018, there are 1,83,184 Common Services Centres (CSCs) functioning at Gram Panchayat (GP) level across the country.

One CSC on an average provides employment to 3-4 persons.

(d) The Government of India launched the Digital Finance Inclusion, Awareness and Access (DFIAA) Project under Digital India programme in November, 2016 to March, 2017. CSC Special Purpose Vehicle (CSC-SPV) has implemented this project through CSC-Digital Seva Kendras and registered more than 205 lakh Citizens and enabled around 26 lakh merchants during the period November, 2016 to March, 2017.

#### **Biometric failure in collection of Aadhaar data**

2509. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE:

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the biometric method of collection of information has failed many times in States such as Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal and Jharkhand, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there have been implications of exclusion due to biometric failures such as fingerprint detection errors, etc.; and

(c) whether Government shall permit alternative modes to establish one's identity if Aadhaar identification fails in the future, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI K. J. ALPHONS): (a) Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) does not maintain State-wise details of authentication failures for identify verification through Aadhaar.

(b) and (c) UIDAI provides various modes of authentication viz Demographic, Biometric (Finger Print+IRIS), One Time Password (OTP) and Multi-factor authentication. The Service Provider may choose suitable mode(s) of authentication.

As per para 14(1)(i) of Aadhaar (Authentication) Regulation 2016, a requesting entity has to implement exception-handling mechanisms and back-up identity

authentication mechanisms to ensure seamless provision of authentication services to Aadhaar number holders.

Further, DBT Mission, Cabinet Secretariat has issued guidelines dated 19th December, 2017 on exception handling for use of Aadhaar in benefit schemes of Government, which *inter-alia* has stipulated the following mechanism in respect of cases where Aadhaar authentication fails:

- (i) Departments and Bank Branches may make provisions for IRIS scanners along with fingerprint scanners, wherever feasible.
- (ii) In cases of failure due to lack of connectivity, offline authentication system such as QR code bases coupons, Mobile based OTP or TOTP may be explored.

In all cases where online authentication is not feasible, the benefit/service may be provided on the basis of possession of Aadhaar, after duly recording the transaction in register, to be reviewed and audited periodically.

#### **Benefits to farmers from FPIs**

2510. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a direct connect between farmers and Food Processing Industries (FPIs) proposed to be set up as a result of several initiatives taken by Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the extent to which farmers would benefited from FPIs and whether the industries would come up close to the farm gates; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) to (d) Government is implementing the Central Sector Scheme - PRADHAN MANTRI KISAN SAMPADA YOJANA (PMKSY) with an allocation of ₹6,000 crore for the period 2016-20 coterminous with the Fourteenth Finance Commission cycle for promotion and development of food processing sector in the country.