

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.

The following schemes are implemented under PMKSY:

- (i) Mega Food Parks;
- (ii) Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure;
- (iii) Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities;
- (iv) Infrastructure for Agro-processing Clusters;
- (v) Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages;
- (vi) Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure; and
- (vii) Human Resources and Institutions.

PMKSY is a big step towards doubling of farmers income, providing better prices to farmers, creating huge employment opportunities especially in the rural areas. It is a comprehensive package for creation of modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlet. Besides providing a big boost to the growth of food processing sector in the country, it also help in reducing wastage of agricultural produce, increasing the processing level, enhancing the export of the processed foods, enabling availability of hygienic and nutritious food to consumers at affordable price.

PMKSY is aiming at leveraging investment of ₹31400 crore, handling of 334 lakh MT agro-produce valuing ₹ 1,04,125 crore, benefit 20 lakh farmers and generate 5,30,500 direct/indirect employment in the country by the year 2019-20.

Food Processing Units

2511. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of food processing industrial units which are there in public and private sectors in the country now;
- (b) the number of employees in them;
- (c) their annual production during last three years;
- (d) in which areas, say foodgrains, vegetables and fruits, there are possibilities for more production units;
- (e) the possibilities for these industries at present; and