

mentions the mechanism for extending benefits to beneficiaries who do not possess Aadhaar.

Further, these guidelines mentions 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 based coupons, Mobile based OTP or TOTP may be explored.
- (iii) 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.

Fraudulent Aadhaar cards

1353. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there have been any cases where fraudulent Aadhaar Cards have been found by the Ministry;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases that have been found;
- (c) the number of Aadhaar Cards deactivated by the UIDAI since its inception; and
- (d) the total coverage of Aadhaar in the country as of date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Such fraudulent Aadhaar numbers are cancelled under regulation 27 of the Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) Regulations, 2016. A total of 40,955 fraudulent Aadhaar numbers have been cancelled up to 31.08.2020.

(c) Deactivation of Aadhaar number, under regulation 28 of the Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) Regulations, 2016, takes place on account of inter alia bad data requiring update. As on 31.08.2020, 38.16 lakh Aadhaar numbers stand deactivated.

(d) As on 31.08.2020, a total of 126.17 crore Aadhaar numbers have been generated against the projected population (2020) of about 137.05 crore. However, the actual number of Aadhaar holders is lesser due to deaths.

Hence, the concept of "Live Aadhaar" has been introduced to estimate the number of persons holding Aadhaar, who are alive. It is estimated that the number of 'Live Aadhaar' stands at 121.86 crore. Overall Aadhaar (live) saturation in the country is 88.92%.

Fake videos and rumours on social media during Delhi violence

1354. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any instances of spreading fake videos and rumours through social media during recent Delhi violence;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with number of such cases identified and the details of action taken in this regard;

(c) whether there is any plan to set up a fact checker website/cell intended to verify and inform common citizens regarding authenticity of viral videos/messages; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) and (b) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects as per the Constitution of India and States are primarily responsible for prevention, detection and investigation through their law enforcement machinery. The Law Enforcement Agencies take legal action against the cyber-crime offenders as per the provisions of applicable laws. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) does not maintain such data.

(c) and (d) Cyber space is a complex environment of people, software, hardware and services on the Internet. With a borderless cyberspace coupled with the possibility of instant communication and anonymity, the potential for misuse of cyberspace and social media platforms for criminal activities is a global issue. There were media reports about social media platforms being misused to spread various cases of mob lynching, fake news and objectionable videos posted on social media and video sharing sites.