

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 479
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2022

LINKING OF AADHAAR CARD FOR SUPPLEMENTARY NUTRITION PROGRAMME

479 SHRI BINOY VISWAM:

Will the Minister of Women and Child Development be pleased to state:

- (a) what are the reasons for the mandatory requirement of Aadhaar cards for minors who want to avail the Supplementary Nutrition Programme;
- (b) the total number of children till age 6 years with Aadhaar cards at present;
- (c) whether Government is aware that this decision will render nearly 70 per cent of children ineligible to receive these nutrition benefits, if so, what safeguards are being taken to prevent the same; and
- (d) the total number of fake beneficiaries under the Supplementary Nutrition Programme since 2018, State-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (c) Supplementary Nutrition Program offered at Anganwadi Centres involves recurring expenditure incurred from the Consolidated Fund of India. Therefore, in pursuance of the provisions of Section-7 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 (18 of 2016), the Ministry has notified the Supplementary Nutrition Programme vide Notification No.S.O-348(E) dated 06.02.2017. Anganwadi Services scheme is being digitized by the Ministry through the POSHAN Tracker App. Digitization of the scheme will enable the Ministry to identify the beneficiaries as a part of the programme as a whole.

No child is deprived of supplementary nutrition due to absence of Aadhaar number. The benefits under the scheme can be accessed using the mother's Aadhaar card.

As per the information received from UIDAI, the age wise data is compiled by UIDAI in the following age-groups:

- a) 0-5 years
- b) 5-18 years
- c) > 18 years
- d) Overall

As on 30th June, 2022, Aadhaar numbers have been assigned to 3,16,70,612 children in the age of 0-5 years out of the total projected population (2022) of 11,47,12,650 in the age group of 0-5 years.

(d) Ministry has been re-calibrating Data to maximize nutritional out comes for genuine beneficiaries.
