



Government of West Bengal
Food & Supplies Department
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<https://food.wb.gov.in>



File No. FNS-17013/1/2021-IT SEC	Comp. No.: 339253
No. : 3379	Dated: 22.08.2024

ORDER

Sub : Revised guidelines for Aadhaar Linking of Ration Cards

Whereas the Aadhaar (**Targeted Delivery of Financial and other Subsidies, benefits and services**) Act, 2016 states that “*The Central Government or, as the case may be, the State Government may, for the purpose of establishing identity of an individual as a condition for receipt of a subsidy, benefit or service for which the expenditure is incurred from, or the receipt therefrom forms part of, the Consolidated Fund of India, require that such individual undergo authentication, or furnish proof of possession of Aadhaar number or in the case of an individual to whom no Aadhaar number has been assigned, such individual makes an application for enrolment*”.

And

Whereas the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in MA 94/2022 in SMW(C) number 6 of 2020 has directed for completion of e KYC within 2 months

And

Whereas the Department has been striving to complete e KYC of all beneficiaries

And

Therefore the following guidelines are being issued in supersession of earlier guidelines to complete e KYC of all beneficiaries:

1. Color coding of Ration Cards:

All Ration cards are broadly divided into five (5) major categories and shown in different colours in departmental portal as well as in ePoS as follows:

- i. **Active and seeded with Aadhaar through e KYC** represented in **Green color**.
- ii. **Active and seeded with Aadhaar through Demo Auth** represented in **Blue color**.
- iii. **Active and not seeded with Aadhaar** represented in **Yellow Color**. This category will have cards of children below the age of 5 years and those special cases which have been exempted by the Inspectors or SCFS/ROs.
- iv. **Temporary Inactive Cards not seeded with Aadhaar** represented in **Red Color** which can be reactivated with e KYC of aadhaar.
- v. **Permanently Inactive cards** represented in **Red Color** which have been deactivated due to surrender or death and cannot be reactivated again.

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2. Linking of aadhaar with Ration Card:

- i. **Ration card not seeded with any Aadhaar & Aadhaar being used for linking is also not seeded with any ration card –**
 - a) Can be seeded through e KYC from any of the modes i.e e-POS of any FPS of West Bengal, Departmental website-www.food.wb.gov.in, Bangla Sahayata Kendra or from office of the Area Inspector (F&S).
 - b) **If name in Ration Card and Aadhaar matches completely, then instant seeding takes place, else it goes to CPC (Central Processing Center) for verification. If the ration card and Aadhaar appears to be of the same person, the CPC official will approve, else reject.**

- ii. **Ration Card attempted to be linked is already seeded with another Aadhaar or Aadhaar being used for linking is already seeded with another ration card –**
 - a) If any person finds that his /her Aadhaar is wrongly seeded with any other ration Card or his Ration Card is seeded with an Aadhaar which is not his then he/she shall visit Inspector office for e KYC.
 - b) A facility **for Delinking of Aadhaar will be provided in Inspector login.**
 - c) Inspector shall have to first **Delink** the aadhaar first.
 - d) Inspector shall have to certify in the portal that name in Ration Card and Aadhaar belong to different persons and then submit to delink.
 - e) If the incumbent has a ration card, then Inspector shall proceed to link the Aadhaar with the actual ration card.
 - f) Inspector has to certify that he /she has physically seen the incumbent and that both name in Ration Card and Aadhaar belong to the same person.
 - g) Inspector shall then complete the e KYC from his login
 - h) **If name in Ration Card and Aadhaar matches completely then instant seeding takes place and if not then it will to CPC.**
 - i) In case the incumbent does not have a Ration Card, he can then submit application for ration card using the delinked Aadhaar, if he so desires.

- iii. **Linking through Demo authentication in cases of exigency:**
 - a) In case any of the e KYC means i.e Fingerprint, Iris & Mobile OTP are not working for any beneficiary then Inspector can link through Demo authentication.
 - b) Inspector has to certify that he /she has physically seen the incumbent and that both RCMS name and Aadhaar belong to the same person & that none of the e KYC means are working for the incumbent.
 - c) Inspector shall enter the Aadhaar number and go for Demo Authentication. Name will be fetched from RCMS database and Inspector cannot alter it. If RCMS name and Aadhaar number match fully then the Aadhaar gets seeded.

- d) In case demo authentication is unsuccessful due to name mismatch then Inspector shall ask the incumbent to submit **Form 5** for rectification of name in Ration Card.
- iv. Exemptions in certain cases:** In spite of our endeavor to link aadhaar, there might be certain cases where the beneficiary does not have Aadhaar or is yet to get aadhaar. Such cases will be dealt in accordance with provisions in GO NO. 2491(2) dated 21.6.2024
- v. Certain restrictions to prevent fraudulent use of Aadhaar:** In recent times some complaints have been received and upon enquiry it has been found that in some of these cases there has been deliberate & fraudulent attempts for use of Aadhaar. To prevent such misuse certain restrictions are also going to be imposed.

The restrictions are:

- a) Any Aadhaar that has been used more than thrice with different multiple cards shall be barred from future use.
- b) A message will pop up whenever such Aadhaar is used for the 3rd time with different Ration Cards-**“This Aadhaar has been attempted to be used earlier with other Ration Cards. This is your 3rd and last attempt and if does not match your aadhar will be locked and will not be able to be used with any other ration card for seeding.”**
- c) A message will pop up whenever such Aadhaar is used for the 4th time-**“This Aadhaar has been used multiple times with different cards and locked. Please visit SCFS / RO office for unlocking.”**
- d) For unlocking the aadhaar, the beneficiary has to visit SCFS/RO office.
- e) There will be a functionality provided in SCFS/RO login for unlocking & with the list of such Aadhaars with complete history of attempts and details.
- f) On being satisfied the SCFS / RO may unlock the Aadhaar and then the incumbent can link aadhaar with his ration card from any of the means.
- g) SCFS / RO should also take action in accordance with law for such misuse, if the incumbent is found to have used the Aadhaar with multiple ration cards with malafide intention.
- h) No linking or delinking of aadhaar already seeded with an active card shall be allowed from any other avenue except Inspector login.

Henceforth, all cases of mismatch of name in Aadhaar and Ration Card from any source of e KYC shall be forwarded to CPC for verification and disposal.


Special Secretary
to the Government of West Bengal
Food & Supplies Department

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Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. Senior Special Secretary (Food)
2. Director, Directorate of DDP&S
3. Director, Directorate of Rationing
4. Joint Secretary (IT)
5. All District Magistrates
6. All DCFS& DDRs with request to circulate amongst all
7. PS to MIC, Food & Supplies Department
8. PS to HMOS, Food & supplies Department


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