

**Government of West Bengal
Department of Food & Supplies
11-A/Mirza Ghalib Street. Kolkata-87**

No- 3887/FS/O/Secdt/IT-09/2014 (part-I)

Date-18/09/2019

ORDER

WHEREAS section 12 of the National Food Security Act, 2013 (20 of 2013), inter alia provides that the Central and State Governments shall endeavour to progressively undertake necessary reforms in the Targeted Public Distribution System in consonance with the role envisaged for them which includes application of information and communication technology tools including end-to-end computerization in order to ensure transparent recording of transactions at all levels, and to prevent diversion and leveraging "aadhaar" for unique identification, with biometric information of entitled beneficiaries for proper targeting of benefits under that Act;

AND WHEREAS the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 (18 of 2016) *inter alia* provides 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, requires that such as individual should undergo authentication, or furnish proof of possession of Aadhaar number;

AND WHEREAS a Constitutional Bench of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, while passing the judgement in Writ Petition No. 494 of 2012 on 26th September 2018 with other related writ petitions, has upheld the validity of section 7 of the Aadhaar Act thereby rendering the Aadhaar seeding of the ration card compulsory as per the said section;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Government of India, vide its letter being F.No. 9-2/2016 – PD.II/Pt & Pt II(E.337150) dated 03.10.2018, F. No. 14(07)/2014-Comp(E:321733), dated 23.05.2019, F.No. 9-2/2016 – PD.II-Part (1)(E.364004) dated 03.07.2019 etc. has been stressing hard from time to time for seeding of Aadhaar numbers of the beneficiaries covered under the Targeted Public Distribution System Scheme envisaged under the National Food Security Act;

AND WHEREAS in a all party meeting of MLAs held on 30th August, 2019 the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Speaker it was resolved that Aadhaar card should be linked with ration card through e-PoS (electronic point of sale) machines for distribution of foodgrains to those ration card holders of this State and the entire process should be completed within November, 2019.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governor is pleased to order for the seeding of Aadhaar numbers of the beneficiaries with their digital ration cards detailed here in under, adhering to the procedure as

- (1) Every Tuesday and Wednesday will be utilized for Aadhaar Seeding of beneficiaries at the FPS level and distribution of foodgrains from FPS will start from Thursday onwards upto 1st half of Sunday of a week. This procedure will continue till completion of Aadhaar Seeding of all beneficiaries under that FPS.
- (2) In addition, facility of Aadhaar seeding will be done uninterruptedly in the Offices of all Inspectors in Block offices/R.O offices from Monday to Saturday except Government holidays.
- (3) Beneficiaries will approach their respective earmarked FPSs/concerned Block offices/R.O offices with their Digital ration Cards and Aadhaar numbers for seeding.
- (4) In e-PoS machine, if the card number of any family member is given, all the cards of other family members of that particular family will be displayed on the screen.
- (5) For seeding purpose, any one family member may produce Aadhaar cards of all the family members for seeding with the Ration cards of all the family members.
- (6) Persons responsible for seeding should be careful at the time of seeding of Aadhaar cards with Ration cards because the seeded Aadhaar number will be used for biometric authentication at the time of distribution of foodgrains.
- (7) Mobile number of the Ration card holder should also be seeded concurrently if it has not been seeded already.
- (8) In all cases, where the validation of Aadhaar number of ration card beneficiaries has already been seeded with their Ration cards, his/her data will automatically be displayed in e-PoS after inserting ration card number of those beneficiaries as “**already aadhaar seeded and validated**”. There is no need to seed Aadhaar once again for those cases and foodgrains distribution through Aadhaar authentication can be started for these beneficiaries immediately.
- (9) In case of AAY family, production of the card of only Head of the Family will suffice for the seeding exercise.
- (10) All DCF&S and DDR will arrange for local campaign for awareness amongst the beneficiaries for Aadhaar seeding with ration cards via e-PoS machines.

This order is issued in the interest of public service for strict compliance by all concerned.

By order of the Governor,



Principal Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal,
Department of Food & Supplies.

No- 3887/FS/O/Sectt/IT-09/2014 (part-I)

Date-18/09/2019

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to-

1. District Magistrate All.
2. D.D.R All.
3. D.C.F&S All.
4. S.C.F&S All.
5. R.O All.
6. D.K Gupta, Director (P.D), Department of Food & Public Distribution. Govt. of India.
7. Additional Secretary, F&S Department.
8. Director of Rationing.
9. Director of DDP&S.
10. Sr Technical Director, NIC.
11. P.S to HMIC F&S.
12. Sr. PS to Principal Secretary, F&S Department.
13. Linkwell Telesystem limited for strict compliance.
14. Webel Technology Limited for strict compliance.
15. General Secretary West Bengal M.R Dealer's Association.
16. General Secretary All Bengal Fair Price Shop Dealer's welfare Association.
17. Guard file.


Special Secretary
Food & Supplies Department