

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1817
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2022

FAILURE OF BIOMETRIC AUTHENTICATION

1817. SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has report on failure of biometric authentication due to frequent errors arising out of Aadhaar authentication processes;
- (b) if so, the steps taken to address over eighteen per cent authentication failure due to biometric mismatch in Aadhaar data;
- (c) the measures taken with the Finance Ministry for the persons who have failed to link Aadhaar with pan or update with voter card; and
- (d) the recent report of Comptroller and Auditor General of India on the accountability of Unique Identification Authority of India functioning and process compliance therein?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR)

(a): Yes Sir, the failure of the identity authentication through Biometric are attributed to various factors namely, improper capture of biometric due to worn-out finger print minutia, finger not placed properly on device, network failure related errors, etc.

(b): To increase the success rate of identity authentication through biometric, UIDAI constantly provides training to authentication operators through its Regional Offices and encourages the use of identity authentication via Iris devices for residents of old age and whose finger print minutia are worn out.

(c): The Aadhaar-PAN linking has started from 01.07.2017. The Government kept on extending the date for linking of PAN with Aadhaar to facilitate the PAN holder to link their PAN with Aadhaar. The last date for Aadhaar- PAN linking without paying any fee was 31st March, 2022. However, considering the inconvenience which will be faced by the taxpayers, Ministry of Finance, CBDT, vide Notification dated 29th March 2022, has provided a window of opportunity to the taxpayers upto 31st March, 2023 to link their Aadhaar with PAN, after paying certain fee, failing which PAN of taxpayers who fail to link their Aadhaar shall become inoperative.

Also, as per The Election Laws (Amendment) Act, 2021 notified by Ministry of Law and Justice, Legislative Department on 30.12.2021, section 23(6) of the notification provides that-

“(6) No application for inclusion of name in the electoral roll shall be denied and no entries in the electoral roll shall be deleted for inability of an individual to furnish or intimate Aadhaar number due to such sufficient cause as may be prescribed:

Provided that such individual may be allowed to furnish such other alternate documents as may be prescribed.”

(d): Recommendations of the CAG's Audit Report No. 24 of 2021-(MeitY) on “Performance Audit on Functioning of UIDAI” have been accepted for implementation. Action taken report has been uploaded on Audit Para Monitoring System (APMS) (<https://apms.nic.in/>).
