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संयुक्त सचिव
भारत सरकार
उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय
खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण विभाग
कृषि भवन, नई दिल्ली - 110001
JOINT SECRETARY
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,
FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
KRISHI BHAWAN, NEW DELHI-110001

D.O. No.23/Chhattisgarh/2012-Comp.

Dated: 22nd February, 2016

Dear

This is with reference to your D.O. letter No. F-324/2013/Khadya/29 dtd. 08.01.2016 wherein it has been informed that more than 4,000 FPSs were automated in the State either through a Tablet or Point of Sale (PoS) device and issuance of food grains was being done without any authentication as (a) seeding of Aadhaar in beneficiary database was under process, (b) many people are yet to enrol for Aadhaar and (c) yet to receive the Aadhaar. In the aforesaid letter, clarification has been sought whether commission of Rs. 17/- shall be paid for the quantity of Rice/Wheat sold through automated system with or without authentication.

2. In this connection, I would like to inform you that this Department has issued guidelines on FPS automation vide letter dated 11.11.2014 (copy enclosed) which stipulates that "The authentication of beneficiaries initially could be done through any mechanism decided by the State/UT Govt. But, it would be done eventually through Aadhaar platform only."

3. Further, this Department had also issued instructions vide letter dated 15.05.2015 (copy enclosed) and requested all States/UTs to ensure that no beneficiary should be denied benefits under TPDS/NFSA for not getting the Aadhaar number, if entitled.

4. In view of the position explained above, I would like to clarify that this Department shall reimburse the Central Share of margin of Rs. 17/- per quintal to State for sale through PoS, provided that the food grains under NFSA are issued using Tablet/PoS/electronic device which fulfil the minimum standards fixed by the Department and all FPS level transactions are in public domain in the prescribed format and based on authentication of beneficiaries done through any mechanism in the absence of Aadhaar seeding, decided by the State. However, in the long term, after complete Aadhaar seeding along with reliable connectivity at FPSs has been achieved, States shall endeavour to issue food grains to beneficiaries after their authentication using Aadhaar only. The State Govt. must inform this Department about the mechanism it has adopted for authentication of beneficiaries where the Aadhaar based system is yet not in place. It may please be ensured that the methodology adopted for beneficiary authentication incorporates the spirit of the scheme, i.e., de-duplication, correct identification, elimination of diversion and leakage and improving the efficiency.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,
Sd/-
(Deepak Kumar)

Encl: As above
Ms. Richa Sharma,
Secretary (Food)
Government of Chhattisgarh,
Naya Raipur-492 002 (C.G.)

✓ Copy for information:- i) Principal Secretary/Secretary (Food & Civil Supplies), All States/UTs.
ii) Dy. Director General, NIC, New Delhi.

(Deepak Kumar)
Joint Secretary(BP&PD)



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KRISHI BHAWAN, NEW DELHI-110001

D.O. No. 14/12/2014/Comp.

November 11, 2014

Dear *Madam,*

As you are aware, Department of Food & Public Distribution is implementing the plan scheme on End-to-end Computerisation of TPDS Operations. Detailed deliberations regarding the next phase i.e. FPS automation were held with States/UTs, UIDAI, NIC, etc. in April and June 2014. Accordingly, NIC had prepared a draft solution document on FPS automation, which was shared with all States/UTs for their views/comments.

2. I would like to inform that this Department has now framed the guidelines for FPS automation, which includes the minimum specifications for devices to be used at Fair Price Shops (FPSs). I urge all States/UTs to expedite completion of various activities under the ~~current~~ plan scheme (Component-I) and implement FPS automation as per the enclosed guidelines.

3. The norms and pattern of assistance to States/UTs for FPS automation shall be finalised shortly in terms of Rules being made under NFSA for providing assistance for FPS dealers' margin.. It will be a model based on outsourcing, wherein FPS owner shall buy own & operate the device. In this context, your suggestions for implementation are also solicited.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Encl: as above

(Signature)
(Deepak Kumar)

Principal Secretary/Secretary,
Department of Food & Civil Supplies,
All States/UTs Government.

Copy alongwith copy of guidelines to:

1. Joint Secretary(eGov.), DeitY, New Delhi.
2. Shri Anirudh Mukherjee, DDG, UIDAI, New Delhi.
3. Dr. Mrs. Ranjna Nagpal, DG, NIC, New Delhi.

Guidelines for Fair Price Shop Automation

Technical and financial support will be given to States/UTs for Fair Price Shop (FPS) automation with a view to modernise the FPS operations at the last mile and ensure that foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) reach the intended beneficiaries. The guidelines for implementation of FPS automation are as follows:

- i. States/UTs that have completed activities relating to the Plan Scheme on 'End-to-end Computerization of TPDS Operations' shall be considered for assistance for FPS automation. This includes activities namely digitisation of beneficiary/ration card and other data, computerisation of supply chain management, setting up of transparency portals and grievance redressal mechanism. A certificate to this effect shall be sent by the State/UT Food Secretary. The status of computerisation may also be assessed by the Department of Food and Public Distribution (D/oF&PD).
- ii. Assistance for FPS automation shall be provided on cost sharing basis to States/UTs. This will be a component of financial assistance to be given by Central Government towards expenses on FPS owners' margins under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA). Hence, funding will be available for States/UTs that are implementing the NFSA. Norms and pattern of assistance shall be governed by Rules to be made under the NFSA.
- iii. States/UTs shall send a proposal for financial assistance in prescribed proforma including the completion of plan scheme activities, proposed coverage of FPSs, connectivity status, roll-out plan, time-bound milestones to be achieved, Aadhaar coverage, etc. Central Government will transfer its share of funds as per rules prescribed in this regard.
- iv. National Informatics Centre (NIC) will be the technical partner of D/oF&PD and States/UTs for the project.
- v. The device to be used at the FPS may be of any form factor i.e. Point of Sale device or mobile terminal that is capable of performing TPDS related transactions. The minimum specifications for these devices are annexed.
- vi. The main transaction to be undertaken through the device is authentication of beneficiaries, recording of sales to beneficiaries at the FPS and uploading of transaction data in the designated server. The uploaded data will be used to make online allocations for subsequent months. The authentication of beneficiaries initially could be done through any mechanism decided by the

- State/UT Govt. But, it would be done eventually through Aadhaar platform only.
- vii. Aadhaar based authentication in TPDS will help correctly identify the beneficiary and also allow portability of benefits across FPSs. The device installed at FPS shall be technically capable to perform Aadhaar based authentication. Aadhaar based authentication through the device may be considered in due course or in phased manner, depending on availability of Aadhaar numbers, connectivity, legal provision, etc. Integration of Aadhaar numbers with ration cards may be considered in due course or in a phased manner.
 - viii. The device shall meet the minimum specifications that are finalised in consultation with D/o Electronics & Information Technology (DeitY), Unique Identity Authority of India (UIDAI) and NIC. These specifications shall be made available by NIC on TPDS portal at www.pdsportal.nic.in.
 - ix. The device need not be a single compact device. The device, finger print scanner, printer, etc. of the device should be certified by the Standardisation Testing and Quality Certification (STQC) Directorate of the DeitY for use in FPS automation and Aadhaar based authentication.
 - x. As and when new devices are offered by vendors that meet the specifications and are STQC certified, the same may be used by States/UTs.
 - xi. NIC shall prepare single standard software, which would be made available in standard operating environments like android, linux, windows and ios. This standard software shall be used by all States/UTs without exception.
 - xii. The software would be generic in nature so that no customization will be required. It would be available for download free of cost through the TPDS portal and DeitY's AppStore.
 - xiii. NIC shall define the process relating to installation of software, integration of the software with existing software, transaction at the FPS, data exchange, training of trainers, etc. Detailed documents and manuals in this regard shall be prepared by NIC and placed on the TPDS portal for use by States/UTs.
 - xiv. NIC would setup a dedicated support desk to resolve technical issues. This team will provide daily online and telephonic support to nodal officers of States/UTs. All issues raised would be recorded, accessible and reviewed by State/UT and Central Govt.
 - xv. The implementation of FPS automation shall be the complete responsibility of States/UTs. However, if required by them, NIC shall designate appropriate personnel from their Central or State team to provide necessary guidance.
 - xvi. The FPS owner shall buy, own and operate the device. As per requirement, State/UT may decide from the STQC certified model(s) and regarding the

- mode of procurement of devices for the sake of uniformity through the State/UT, economies of scale, easy maintenance, replacement, etc.
- xvii. With a view to facilitate timely support and also create healthy competition, States/UTs may define their respective policy for choosing a limited number of vendors to provide the devices, service, etc.
 - xviii. To ensure that the devices work successfully in the field, the State/UT shall also define their respective policies regarding the device vendor/ service provider/ system integrator's obligations on issues such as installation and testing of device, attending to complaints, field level repair/replacement, warranty, resolution of technical issues, penalties for non-compliance, non-adherence to prescribed service levels, etc.
 - xix. States/UTs shall set up their respective helpline numbers along with the device vendor/ service provider/ system integrator to ensure smooth roll-out and successful operations across FPSs.
 - xx. Before the launch of FPS automation, States/UTs would also take necessary steps towards ensuring readiness of FPS dealers, their training, hand-holding at the FPS level, creating beneficiary awareness, availability of connectivity, power, supply of consumables like printer paper, rules for exception management, etc.
 - xxi. The margin to be paid to FPS dealers under NFSA would include reimbursement of their expenditure towards purchase and operation of the device at the FPS. States/UTs shall ensure that amounts due are released to the FPS dealer in advance or the same time the transaction is completed, subject to monthly verification and other checks necessary.
 - xxii. States/UTs will coordinate with NIC and ensure that all TPDS software are integrated and that FPS transaction data is available in public domain without restriction on access of data through their transparency portals.
 - xxiii. D/oF&PD would regularly help in resolving issues faced by States/UTs, review the progress of roll out in States/UTs, monitor actions to be taken by NIC, etc.

POS Specifications

Sl.No.	Description	Specifications
1	Processor	Arm Cortex A8 / x86 or equivalent 1 Ghz or higher Processor (Processor should be capable enough of performing fingerprint authentication with AUA/ASA/UIDAI servers)
2	OS	Linux OS (Latest stable Kernel)/Android 4.0 or higher/Windows. Device operating system which supports HTML5 based web browser ,CSS 3, Java Scripts
3	Memory	256MB or Higher RAM and 1GB Flash or higher memory
4	Expansion slot	Micro SD Slot to support SD card with minimum 4 GB high speed SD card. Slot should be able to Support up to 8 GB
5	Communication	Should support GSM Network with GPRS, Wi-Fi, Ethernet, PSTN (Integrated ports)
6	Interface	USB 2.0 or higher (full speed), the USB port should support device battery charging through any other USB charging source. Additional RS-232 port may be optional
7	Display	3.5 inch or higher color TFT Display supporting QVGA (320 x240) or better resolution and 64K or higher colors.
8	Key Pad	Minimum 16 alpha numeric keypad with navigation keys, keys size to be large enough for navigation
9	Battery	Swappable & Dry/Rechargeable 2600mAH or higher, Li-ion or Li Polymer battery capable of providing minimum 6 hours of operation while all function of device active.
10	Power Adaptor	Power Adaptor with surge protection and operating range 100 to 240V, 50Hz. AC input.
11	SIM & SAM slot	One or more GSM SIM slot and dual SAM slots for software up-gradation in device.
12	Printer	2" or higher printer (Preferably Thermal Printer)
13	Audio	Good quality Speaker with 1W or higher output for announcements. (Optional)
14	Finger Print Scanner	Finger Print module shall be STQC certified
15	Status Indications	Status indicator provides ease of use, Indicators for connectivity (presence/absence), signal strength, battery status etc.,
16	Other Accessories	Durable Carry Case and user manual etc., The POS device, Single finger print scanner and Printer should be integrated in rugged casing. The casing should be made of inflexible, solid material and can be of polycarbonate/thick plastic / acrylic / other tough material.
17	SDK	Appropriate SDK need to be provided along with the devices
18	Terminal Management	Device should be remotely manageable in secured mode
19	Environment, Health & Safety Durability, Humidity, EMI/EMC Compliance	As per STQC guidelines
20	Add-On Antenna	May be provisioned for the POS devices which will be used in remote locations and hilly areas for better signal reception and seamless transactions
21	Warranty	Suitable Warranty support

Mobile Terminal Specification

Sl.No.	Feature	Specifications
1	Display	7" inches or higher scratch resistant multi point capacitive touch screen with minimum WSVGA resolution (1024 X 600)
2	Processor Speed	1 GHz Dual Core or higher ARM /x86 processor or equivalent
3	RAM	1 GB or higher
4	Inbuilt Storage	4 GB or higher flash memory
5	Expansion Slot	At least a micro SD slot supporting up to 32 GB memory card
6	Audio	Good quality Speaker with 1W or higher output for announcements.
7	External Keyboard support (optional)	Device should support keyboard through USB or Bluetooth interface.
8	Connectivity	Device should support both 3G, GPRS and Wi-Fi, should support GPS feature
9	USB ports	At least one free USB port shall be available after setting up the entire solution including peripheral devices
10	Battery	Swappable & Rechargeable 4000mAH or higher, Li-ion or Li Polymer battery capable of providing minimum 6 hours of operation while all function of device active.
11	Operating System	Operating system should be Linux (Latest Stable Kernel)/Android 4.0 or higher/Windows 8.1 or above.Device operating system which supports HTML5 based web browser and CSS 3
12	Certification	RoHS (Restriction of Hazardous substance)CE or UL
13	CameraBarcode Reader	Capable of reading 1D line barcode and QR codes using 5Mp auto-focus camera
14	Indicators	Status indicator provides ease of use, Indicators for connectivity (presence/absence), signal strength, battery status etc.,
15	Sensors	Accelerometer, Ambient light sensor
16	SAM slot	Device should have at least a SAM slot to support secure loading of signed applications
17	Biometric Sensor	As per STQC Certification, Sensor should able to provide digitally signed/encrypted biometric data for secure data transmission
18	Environment &Security	As per STQC guidelines
19	Printer	Integrated or external
20	Antenna	Internal (mandatory)
21	Terminal Management	Device should be remotely manageable in secured mode
22	Other Accessories	Durable carry case and user manual etc., The Tablet device, Single finger print scanner and Printer should be integrated in rugged casing.The casing should be made of inflexible, solid material and can be of polycarbonate/thick plastic / acrylic / other tough material.
23	Warranty	Suitable Warranty support

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KRISHI BHAWAN, NEW DELHI-110001

D.O. No. 14(7)/2014-Comp

May 15, 2015

Subject:- Clarifications regarding models of DBT, FPS automation and seeding of Aadhaar & Bank accounts

Dear

Please refer to our letter of even no. dated 10.02.2015 wherein three models of DBT and FPS automation were shared with all States/UTs with the request to opt for any of the suggested models for its implementation on pilot basis.

2. Matter has been reconsidered in this Department based on the feedback received from States/UTs during discussions. Keeping in view complexities and difficulties involved in the Model-ii, which involves foodgrains transfers at near market price, crediting the food subsidy into the bank accounts of beneficiaries and distribution through existing FPSs using PoS, this model is not being pursued. This model also requires additional onetime funding for either the State Depts. or the FPS dealers to purchase foodgrains at higher cost. Therefore, we find that only two models reiterated in para 3 below are suitable and any of which could be opted for by the States/UTs for its implementation on pilot basis.

3. Besides, States/UTs are facing challenge regarding digitisation of beneficiary data due to seeding of Aadhaar and bank account details. The matter has been reviewed with DBT, PFMS and NIC teams on 01.05.2015 and following course corrections are suggested depending on the model opted for by the States/UTs:

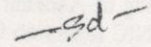
- i. **Cash Transfer:** In case State/UT wants to give cash in lieu of foodgrains they may do the following:-
 - a. Wherever Aadhaar no. of beneficiary has been collected and populated in data base, his/her bank account is not required to be collected. Instead the beneficiary be advised to go to his bank branch which has his account and get his Aadhaar number populated in bank account.
 - b. Those beneficiaries who have not obtained Aadhaar number must be guided to get the same by following the process given at Annexure. However, till such time they obtain the Aadhaar number, their bank account number and IFSC code may be obtained and the same may be populated in the beneficiaries list.

ii. **Subsidised foodgrains delivery:**

- a. In this case, there would be biometric authentication of the beneficiaries at the Fair Price Shops (FPSs) so that there is no diversion of foodgrains. Hence, it is necessary that all beneficiaries have Aadhaar number populated in the database.
 - b. Such Agencies may follow the process given at Annexure to ensure that each beneficiary obtains Aadhaar number and get it populated in the database.
3. Depending upon the model to be implemented, the process discussed above have to be followed for all districts of the State/UT. States/UTs, however, have the flexibility to choose the model for its implementation on pilot basis in an identified district to be selected by the States/UTs and intimated to us.
4. It may please be ensured that no beneficiary should be denied benefits under TPDS/NFSA for not getting the Aadhaar number, if entitled. A brief note is annexed describing specific activities to be undertaken by States/UTs for the seeding of Aadhaar and bank account details. I hope above clarifies the position.
5. I would, therefore, request you to send (i) the name of the district whose beneficiary data is on NIC's CAB layer and; (ii) the model which State/UT Govt. intends to undertake in the district. You may send these details urgently on jspd.fpd@nic.in and cpmu.fpd@nic.in

With regards,

Yours sincerely,



(Deepak Kumar)

The Principal Secretary/Secretary,
Department of Food & Civil Supplies,
All States/ UTs

Copy for information to:

- (i) Mission Director – DBT
- (ii) Jt CGA, PFMS
- (iii) DG, UIDAI
- (iv) RG, RGI
- (v) DDG, NIC
- (vi) File no. 23(3)/2015-Comp.



(Deepak Kumar)

Part A: Approach for Aadhaar seeding in ration card / beneficiary database

- i. Collect beneficiaries' Aadhaar nos. through following options:
 - a. Beneficiaries submit copy of Aadhaar no./EID to FPS dealers / Food Inspector / nearest F&CS offices / nearest CSCs
 - b. Beneficiaries provide Aadhaar nos./EID through toll free nos. setup under TPDS
 - c. Beneficiaries provide Aadhaar nos./EID through TPDS portals
 - d. F&CS Deptt. to collect Aadhaar nos./EID through door to door survey
 - e. Provide Aadhaar nos./EID
 - f. at the time of submission of ration card requests

Areas with low Aadhaar coverage:

- ii. State/UT F&CS Deptt. to contact UIDAI/RGI for setting up more enrolment camps and beneficiaries to be asked to undertake enrolment and provide their EID/UID nos. Besides, other State Deptts. may be requested to become UIDAI registrars so as to increase the Aadhaar coverage.

Verification of seeded Aadhaar nos. (options)

- iii. If beneficiaries had provided EID nos., such list may be sent to UIDAI for fetching the generated Aadhaar nos. and thereafter to be seeded.
- iv. If State F&CS Departments upload their beneficiary/ration card data on the CAB layer integrated with PFMS, PFMS, as an AUA, can verify the Aadhaar of beneficiaries. Un-verified beneficiaries would have to provide their correct Aadhaar nos. as per the options given at (i) of Part A above.
- v. If Bank account details are seeded in ration card database (under CAB layer), reverse seeding of Aadhaar nos. against an individual may be done by the State F&CS Department where Aadhaar numbers against bank accounts are available in PFMS.

Part B: Approach for Bank Account* seeding in ration card / beneficiary database

- i. Collect beneficiaries' bank account details through following options:
 - a. Beneficiaries submit copy of their bank details to FPS dealers / Food Inspector / nearest F&CS offices / nearest CSCs
 - b. Beneficiaries provide bank details through toll free nos. and TPDS portals
 - c. F&CS Deptt. to collect bank account details through door to door survey
 - d. Provide bank account details at the time of submission of ration card requests

Areas with low Bank coverage:

- ii. Group of Banks to be requested to set up camps at FPS level for opening of beneficiaries' bank accounts. Matter may also be taken up and monitored at the SI,BC meetings.

Verification of seeded bank account details (options)

- iii. PFMS can get bank details verified given in CAB layer. Un-verified beneficiaries would have to provide their correct bank account details as per the options given at (i) of Part B above.

*Bank details - Bank account no. of ration card holder - IFSC code of branch or Core Banking Solution.