GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2860

TO BE ANSWERED ON: 06.08.2025

USE OF AADHAAR-BASED FACE AUTHENTICATION IN NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS

†2860. SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:

SHRI DINESHBHAI MAKWANA:

SHRI DILIP SAIKIA:

SHRI LUMBARAM CHOUDHARY:

SHRI MANOJ TIWARI: DR. HEMANG JOSHI: SHRI GODAM NAGESH:

SMT. SHOBHANABEN MAHENDRASINH BARAIYA:

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

- (a) whether the Government plans to extend Aadhaar-based face authentication technology to other national-level competitive examinations beyond its current applications;
- (b) the steps being taken by the Government to scale up this technology infrastructure to prevent impersonation and reduce examination malpractices effectively across different examination centres; and
- (c) the manner in which digital identity verification systems including face authentication is expected to enhance transparency, build trust among aspirants and strengthen administrative accountability in the conduct of national examinations?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) to (c): The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) issues Aadhaar, a 12-digit unique identification number, to residents based on their biometric and demographic data. It serves as a digital identity for accessing various services through authentication carried out by respective organization providing those services.

Face Authentication, is a type of biometric authentication, having liveness detection features, that uses an individual's facial features to verify his identity in real time. It provides anytime anywhere authentication with any entry level smartphone, thus removing requirement of any additional biometric devices.

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology authorizes Ministries /Department/ Organizations, under Aadhaar Authentication for Good Governance (Social Welfare, Innovation, Knowledge) Rules, 2020, for use of Aadhaar authentication for multiple use cases including examination services. As of now, Staff Selection Commission and Railway Recruitment Board have been authorised to use face authentication in their examinations to verify identity of candidates and other officials.

The real time face authentication during examinations helps in preventing impersonation and reduce malpractices. It enhances transparency, build trust among aspirants and strengthen administrative accountability.
