



THE ASSAM GAZETTE

অসাধাৰণ

EXTRAORDINARY

প্ৰাপ্ত কৰ্তৃত্বৰ দ্বাৰা প্ৰকাশিত

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GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR

FOOD, PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION & CONSUMER AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

The 30th June, 2025

No. E-398606/66.- Whereas the use of Aadhaar as an identity document for biometric authentication of farmers is permitted under Section 4(4)(b)(ii) of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016, and is applicable to those engaged in paddy procurement operations in the State of Assam;

And whereas the Paddy Procurement Scheme has the broad objectives of ensuring Minimum Support Price (MSP) to farmers, providing food to weaker sections at affordable prices, enabling effective market interventions to stabilize prices, and contributing to the overall food security of the country;

And whereas the Food, Public Distribution & Consumer Affairs Department, Government of Assam (hereinafter referred to as "the Department"), is administering the Paddy Procurement Scheme (hereinafter referred to as "the Scheme"), which promotes transparency and convenience for farmers through the Online Paddy Procurement System (OPPS) developed and operated by the Assam Food & Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd. (AFCSCL);

And whereas the Government of India has prescribed Aadhaar-based biometric authentication as a Minimum Threshold Parameter (MTP) for such schemes;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 4(4)(b)(ii) of the Aadhaar Act, 2016, read with the guidelines issued by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), and in continuation of the State Government's implementation of the MSP Scheme, the Governor of Assam is pleased to notify the following:

1. The Online Paddy Procurement System (OPPS) portal - <https://opps.assam.gov.in/>, shall be uniformly implemented across all designated procurement agencies in every Season for Aadhaar-based biometric authentication as a Minimum Threshold Parameter (MTP) during both the registration and procurement phases.

2. In accordance with the Aadhaar Act and UIDAI circulars, Aadhaar authentication shall be mandatory for all eligible farmers availing services under the Scheme during the Kharif Marketing Season (KMS).
3. To ensure that all beneficiaries are aware of this requirement, the Department, through its Implementing Agency, shall make arrangements for wide publicity through media and other outreach measures.
4. In cases where Aadhaar authentication fails due to poor biometrics or other reasons, the following remedial mechanisms shall be adopted:
 - (a) In case of poor fingerprint quality, iris scan shall be used. The Department shall ensure the availability of required devices through its Implementing Agency.
 - (b) If biometric authentication (fingerprint or iris) is unsuccessful, Aadhaar One-Time Password (OTP) or Time-based OTP (TOTP), as applicable, shall be offered wherever feasible.
5. Implementation Details:
 - (i) All farmers must have valid Aadhaar numbers linked to active mobile numbers.
 - (ii) Farmer Registration Stage:
 - Registration via the OPPS portal shall require Aadhaar OTP verification.
 - Biometric authentication (fingerprint/iris scan) shall be conducted to prevent identity fraud and duplication.
 - (iii) Procurement Stage:
 - Biometric Aadhaar authentication shall be mandatory at the time of physical procurement of paddy.
 - (iv) Aadhaar authentication shall be performed only through UIDAI-approved Authentication User Agencies (AUAs) using UIDAI-compliant devices, ensuring adherence to all applicable security protocols.

This Notification shall come into force with immediate effect.

ANASUA DUTTA BARUA,
Secretary to the Government of Assam,
Food, Public Distribution and Consumer Affairs Department.