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Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Financial Services

New Delhi 22nd April 2013

CEOs of All Public Sector Banks
Chairman of All RRBs (through Sponsor Bank)

Subject: Strategy for Seeding Aadhaar in bank accounts

Sir(s) / Madam(s),

I am directed to refer to the instructions issued from time to time regarding opening of bank accounts of beneficiaries and seeding of their Aadhaar for Direct Benefit Transfer under various Government Schemes.

2. Planning Commission has, vide its OM dated 26.12.2012, issued detailed instructions for a camp based approach for collection of beneficiary details, including their bank account and Aadhaar, wherever available, and its use for opening bank accounts and seeding Aadhaar in bank account details. In addition, banks have also been seeding Aadhaar into bank accounts whenever the beneficiaries approach the banks with necessary details. So far, nearly 80 lakh bank accounts have been seeded with Aadhaar and mapped on NPCI Mapper.

3. Rollout of DBT in the second phase, where 78 more districts would be covered, would however require a sharper focus on collection and seeding of Aadhaar into the bank accounts. The Government has also decided to launch DBT for LPG throughout the country tentatively w.e.f. 1.10.2013. This would require a much larger number of beneficiaries to be covered for opening of bank accounts, if needed, and seeding Aadhaar.

4. Besides the camp based approach and account holders approaching the banks for seeding, banks would also need to consider other solutions and use technology so that large number of beneficiaries could be expeditiously covered.

5. Banks are advised to inter alia consider the following:
 - i. Issue, through the Lead Bank/SLBC Convenor, advertisements in the local print and electronic media appealing account holders to open bank accounts, if they don't have bank account, and get Aadhaar seeded into their bank accounts. Banks should also put up banners at their branches and ATMs with similar appeal.
 - ii. Use call centres to advise, through pre-recorded messages, customers to open bank account and get Aadhaar seeded.
 - iii. Since a large number of customers have their mobile phones registered with banks or are registered for internet banking facilities, develop applications for collection of Aadhaar from such customers through SMS or electronic methods. Bulk SMS or e-mails can also be sent to such customers advising them to get their Aadhaar seeded into bank account.
 - iv. Enable their large ATM network to advise customers to seed Aadhaar and to make request for seeding of Aadhaar number which will be reliable as the customer would have been authenticated using ATM card and PIN.
 - v. Develop IVRS application which can be used by the customers to send request for seeding of Aadhaar into the bank accounts.
6. Banks can also use Remote Aadhaar Seeding Framework (RASf), developed by UIDAI, (<https://rasf.uidai.gov.in>) to access and verify the Aadhaar details on line and seed Aadhaar into bank account details. RASf allows the bank to sign in, upload the seeding request received through various channels as stated at para 5(iii) to (v) above and access account holders Aadhaar details. These details would be verified by the bank officials against the bank account details in the bank's own CBS (similar to the system used for verification by Banks on NSDL). In case the details match and the bank official is satisfied, the seeding request would be accepted on the bank system and account would be seeded with Aadhaar. In case the seeding requested is either rejected or is kept pending, the same would be reflected in the seeding request data base. Banks should also develop system of

informing the person making the seeding request the status of action taken, i.e, whether account seeded or request rejected.

7. The advantage of using RASF would be that the seeding request received electronically would be seeded on verification without the need of entering the details afresh and the banks would be able to access the beneficiaries Aadhaar details electronically for verification.

8. As the banks would be required to develop utilities for operationalising the various alternatives at para 5(iii) to (v), it is advised that the work may commence immediately for developing these utilities. Banks should also get in touch with UIDAI to onboard the RASF and finalise the formats for collection of seeding requests and determine the levels at which seeding request would be verified.

9. All PSBs are accordingly requested to take necessary steps, as outlined above, and to establish infrastructure/facilities for accepting and verifying seeding requests. This should be completed and put in operation before 15.5.2013.

10. Action taken in the matter may be informed by e-mail at fi-dfs@nic.in.

This issues with the approval of Secretary(DFS).

Yours faithfully,

(Sandeep Kumar)
Director

Copy to the following for information and necessary action:

1. Chairman Indian Banks' Association for circulating among Members of IBA
2. Executive Directors In Charge of DBT in PSBs

Director

Copy to the following for information:

1. Director General, UIDAI
2. Deputy Governor, RBI
3. CEO, NPCI

4. All Government Nominee Directors on the Boards of PSBs

Director