

**F.No. V-17013/2/2017-PR
Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs
(CS Division)**

**NDCC- II Building, 5th Floor,
Jai Singh Road, New Delhi.**

Dated: 17th February, 2017.

To

- 1) The Additional Chief Secretary (Home) /Principal Secretary(Home)/
Principal Secretary(Prisons) of all States/UTs**
- 2) DG(Prisons)/IG(Prisons) of all States/UTs**

Subject: Identification of visitors-use of Aadhaar

Sir/Madam,

Your attention is invited to the Advisory dated 27th September 2014 as issued by Ministry of Home Affairs with regard to access of prisoners to Aadhaar/National Population Register(NPR) in Correctional Homes. Further, this Ministry has issued Model Prison Manual-2016 wherein all aspects of prison administration have been vividly covered. Chapter 8 of the manual provides the guidelines for contact of prisoners with the outside world. Para 8.03 states :

“On admission, every prisoner should submit a list of persons who are likely to interview him/her and the interview shall be restricted to such family members, relatives and friends. The conversation at the interviews shall be limited to private and domestic matters and there shall be no reference to prison administration and discipline and to other prisoners or politics. The number of persons who may interview a prisoner at one time shall ordinarily be limited to three”.

2. While such visits are allowed to the prisoner for facilitating his/her return to normal life, at the same time it is essential to ensure that such facility does not get misused and also that security of prison is not compromised. Thus it becomes important to verify the identity of the persons making visits to the prisons.

3. Aadhaar is now widely used in government departments for attendance as well as a unique identifier for DBT under various centrally sponsored schemes. Section 57 of The Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery Of Financial and other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 allows the use of Aadhaar number for establishing the identity of an individual for any

purpose, whether by the State or any body corporate or person, pursuant to any law, for the time being in force, or any contract to this effect, subject to the procedure and obligations under section 8 and Chapter VI of the Act.

4. Considering that 109 crore Aadhaar numbers have been issued which covers more than 99% of adult population, it is advised that use of Aadhaar for identification of the visitors to prisons may be implemented to ensure that only authorized individuals avail such facility. Since prison is a State subject, appropriate mechanism may be worked out by respective States/UTs in consultation with UIDAI to put in place a system for use of Aadhaar for verification of the identity of visitors.

5. The receipt of this advisory may be acknowledged.

Yours faithfully


11/11/17
(Dilip Kumar)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India
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