

## Aadhaar to eliminate multiple PF accounts

Kolkata: The Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) on Monday said it will be able to eliminate multiple account numbers of an individual once the process of seeding Aadhaar is complete.

"Aadhaar seeding and bank account linking will help do away with multiple provident fund accounts, once merger of accounts happens with the help of Aadhaar seeding," additional central provident fund commissioner S B Sinha said.

He said bank account linking will help members to remotely manage accounts and for claim settlements.

Regional PF Commissioner Navendu Rai said there were 26 lakh regular contributing members in West Bengal at present, but the number of PF accounts issued from the state was about 70 lakh.

"On an average, one person has three provident fund accounts (in West Bengal) due to change in employment," he said.

Since July 1, 2017, Universal Account No (UAN) generation requires mandatory Aadhaar seeding, bank details and mobile number.

Sinha said for old account holders, seeding is being carried out. He said online sub-



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mission of claims and settlements was possible in case of Aadhaar-seeded UAN holders. "Employees will not require transferring their PF account to the new employer as with Aadhaar-seeded UAN numbers, transfer will happen automatically and seamlessly without any intervention of the member," Rai said.

EPFO will send its officers to residences of pensioners for life certificates in case they need this service, and was procuring gadgets and tools for it. "EPFO has commenced self-certification for pre-mature withdrawal and pensioners' portal for disbursal details," Sinha added. —PTI