

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1542
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 28.07.2017

LEAKING OF AADHAAR DETAILS FROM GOVERNMENT WEBSITES

1542. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the leaks of Aadhaar details of citizens from its very own websites, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the data on the numbers of such leaks in the last three years and its impact on individual privacy; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to ensure that there are no further breaches of Aadhaar data of citizens?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY)

(a) and (b): There has been no leakage of Aadhaar data from UIDAI. However, some instances have come to the notice of the Government wherein personal identity or information of the residents including Aadhaar number and demographic information and sensitive data such as bank account details collected by several Ministries/State Government Departments in the administration of their welfare schemes has been reportedly published online.

(c): Numerous steps have been taken to avoid unauthorized display of Aadhaar details of residents. The Aadhaar (Sharing of Information) Regulations, 2016, framed under the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 mandate that core biometric information collected by the Authority under the Act shall not be shared with anyone for any reason whatsoever. Responsibility has also been cast upon the Agency or entity other than the requesting entity with respect to Aadhaar numbers. Restriction is also there on sharing/circulating/publishing of Aadhaar numbers.

The Secretaries of all the Ministries/Departments and the Chief Secretaries of all the State/UTs have been advised by the Government of India in the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology in March 2017 and April 2017 to refrain from such publishing online / publicity and also that any such contents already published or still appearing publicly may be discontinued with immediate effect.
