

‘Aadhaar helped save ₹90,000 cr.’

Jaitley says many schemes UID-linked

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NEW DELHI

The ₹90,000-crore savings from the implementation of Aadhaar is enough to fund three schemes the size of Ayushman Bharat, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley wrote in a blog post on Sunday.

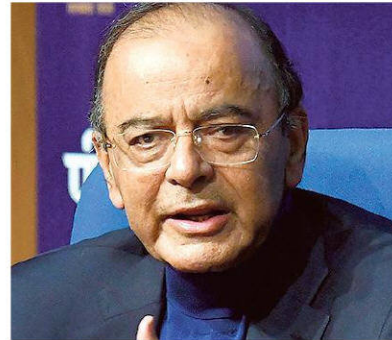
“The government estimates that ₹90,000 crore have been saved in the past few years till March 2018 by the use of Aadhaar,” Mr. Jaitley said.

“Several duplicate beneficiaries, non-existent beneficiaries and fake beneficiaries have been eliminated. The Digital Dividend Report prepared by the World Bank estimates that India can save ₹77,000 crore every year by the use of Aadhaar.”

Mr. Jaitley said that in the past 28 months, more than 122 crore Aadhaar numbers had been issued, covering 99% of India’s population above the age of 18.

“Many state-supported schemes, including some by the DBT mechanism, have been linked to Aadhaar,” he said.

“22.80 crore of PAHAL and Ujjwala beneficiaries are given cooking gas subsidies through DBT in their Aadhaar-linked bank accounts. 58.24 crore ration



Duplicate, non-existent and fake beneficiaries have been eliminated

ARUN JAITLEY
Finance Minister

card holders stand linked. 10.33 crore MGNREGA card holders get wage payment through DBT in their bank accounts. So do the 1.93 crore beneficiaries and other beneficiaries of the national social assistance programme. The Income Tax Department has already linked 21 crore PAN card holders with their Aadhaar numbers.”

Mr. Jaitley said 63.52 crore bank accounts had been linked with the unique identity as of December 15, 2018. The number of subsidy transactions are about 425 crore. The total subsidies transferred through Aadhaar now equal ₹1,69,868 crore, he said.