

Biometric attendance system for all state civil services exams

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Pune: The Maharashtra Public Service Commission (MPSC) has introduced biometric attendance for its main as well as preliminary written examinations to prevent bogus candidates from writing the papers.

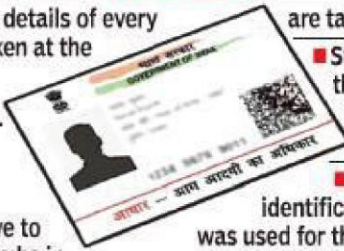
The system will be in place for all examinations conducted by the MPSC for recruitment in police, forest and government departments, and to fill other vacancies.

The system was previously used on a pilot basis for three to four mains exams conducted by the state civil services.

In fact, the prelims exam conducted on December 23 for Class II officers of Women and Child Welfare department used biometric attendance system, Chandrashekar Oak, acting chairman of

HOW DOES IT WORK?

- The Aadhaar details of every student are taken at the time of filling of forms
- Before entering the exam hall, candidates have to press their thumbs in the machine
- Then their photographs are taken
- Students are then allowed to enter the exam hall
- The identification system was used for the first prelims exam for Women and Child Welfare department on Sunday



MPSC, said.

All the prelims conducted from January 2019 will also have biometric attendance system in place. The MPSC conducts examinations for recruitment of various state government departments through direct, competitive, departmental or limited vacancy exams. "The number of candidates appearing for direct recruitment and com-

petitive exams is huge. The competitive exams are mainly held in three phases, including prelims, mains and interview, while in direct recruitment exams there are two phases consisting of prelims and interviews. The biometric system will help in eliminating bogus students appearing for any of these exams," said Oak.

Compared to the main ex-

am, the number of students appearing for prelims is much bigger. Hence, the commission decided to implement the system on a pilot basis for mains exams. The exams conducted in November and December had biometric attendance, but for the prelims the system had not been used yet.

"At the time of filling of forms, the Aadhaar details of every student are taken based on which the identity of the candidates is verified. On Sunday, the exam held for women and child welfare department was the first prelims exam for which the identification system was used," Oak said.

Before entering the examination hall, candidates have to press their thumbs in the machine following which their photographs are taken. They are then allowed to enter the exam hall.