

## Punjab postal circle wins big at Aadhaar Excellence Awards

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The postal circles of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Punjab on Wednesday bagged the first, second and third positions respectively in the Best Performing Postal Circle category of the Aadhaar Excellence Awards given by Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).

Meanwhile, the postal circles of Punjab won in the category of Fastest Roll-out of Aadhaar Enrolment and Updation Centres in the country. Bihar and Telangana were named first and second runner up respectively.

Two Special Mention Awards and a Special Appreciation Award were also given along with another 60 awards in the Best Performing Post Office in a Postal Region category.

"We have the Aadhaar Excellence Awards to recognise and appreciate the commendable efforts done in setting up and operating Aadhaar Enrolment and Updation Centres across the country by India Post. This is going to be an annual event. This time it's for the India Post as they have established around 13000 Aadhaar Enrolment and Update Centres as of now out of a total 14200 Aadhaar Centres that were to be created by them across India," said CEO, UIDAI Dr Ajay Bhushan Pandey.

Pandey said that UIDAI has issued 121 crore Aadhaar till now.

"There is an estimated enrolment and updation activity to the volume of 10 lakh persons per day. Therefore, need was felt to have a credible and widespread infrastructure at the ground level for enrolment and update centres and the role of India Post gets very crucial for this along with other important partners the banks and the government premises to serve almost 10 lakh persons every day," he added.

Pandey further hailed the India Post over its enormous reach to every nook and corner of the country.

"We are constantly upgrading the technology and creating an online enrolment and update system with some flexibility for partially offline enrolment and update if required at some places. We are also getting further stricter on security and processes which is an ongoing exercise in UIDAI, for better deliveries on output and security", he added.

Secretary (India Post) Mr Anant Narayan Nanda said that Aadhaar enrolment and Update Centres have given the India Post an opportunity for a greater footfall as we would be able to utilize this opening to cross-sell our other products to generate more revenues.

Usha Chandra Shekhar, Member (Operations) of India Post expressed gratitude for "posing confidence in India Post".

The felicitation programme, that took place in the national capital, was followed by the day long workshop on "Aadhaar Best Practices" in which a large number of representatives of various award winning postal regions, awardees and CPMGs of a number of Postal Circles and UIDAI regional offices participated.