

Schools can't deny admission for lack of Aadhaar: UIDAI

New Delhi: Government agency UIDAI on Wednesday asked schools not to refuse admission to students for lack of Aadhaar and said such denials are "invalid" and "not permitted under the law".

Taking a stern view of cases where few schools had denied admission to children in absence of Aadhaar, the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) said "it must be ensured that no children are deprived/denied of their due benefits or rights for want of Aadhaar".

The move by the UIDAI is expected to offer relief to parents and students who are left in a lurch when schools insist on Aadhaar number at the time of admission.

For children who are not yet assigned an Aadhaar number or those whose biometrics are not updated in the database, the UIDAI has asserted that under Aadhaar rules it will be the "responsibility" of schools to arrange for enrolments and biometric update facility for such students.

The nodal body for Aadhaar has also exhorted schools



UIDAI said it is "obligatory" on the states to arrange Aadhaar enrolment camp in all schools at least twice a year —DNA/Photo for representation

Some instances have come to our notice of schools denying admission to children for want of Aadhaar. Such denials are invalid and not permitted under the law.

UIDAI, nodal body for Aadhaar

to coordinate with local banks, post offices, state education department and district administration, to facilitate special camps for such enrolment

and updation to take place.

In fact, the Aadhaar-issuing body has said that it is "obligatory" on the states to arrange — through its education department and district administration — the Aadhaar enrolment camp in all schools at least twice a year. A roster should be drawn up for this, it added.

UIDAI CEO Ajay Bhushan Pandey said it is the responsibility of the schools to hold camps in coordination with local banks, post offices, state education department and district administration to facilitate the entire process.—PTI