

F.No.23(5)/2015-Comp.Cell (Part-II) (E:334477)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution  
Department of Food & Public Distribution  
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R No 275, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi - 01  
**Dated:27/07/20**

To  
Principal Secretary/Secretary,  
Food & Civil Supplies Department,  
**All States/UTs**


**Subject: Enhancing the use of technology-driven facilities in Fair Price Shop (FPS) operations – reg.**

Sir/Madam,

In continuation to the letter of this Department of even number dated 24/07/2020, where the States/UTs have been advised to consider integration of **IRIS-based biometric scanners** as alternate means of biometric/Aadhaar authentication of beneficiaries among other technology-driven facilities at the FPSs.

2. It is relevant, to further mention and suggest that, the implementation of IRIS based biometric authentication system shall also be much helpful for the State/UT Governments in ensuring '**rightful targeting of persons with physical disabilities**' such as people with damage to the fingers as a result of accident or some disease (Leprosy, etc.), diminishing/change in formation of fingerprints due to old-age/various reasons, or in case of other differently-abled people, where the situation may pose serious constraints/limitations in performing the fingerprint based biometric authentication of the beneficiary.
3. Therefore, all States/UTs are requested to consider the integration of IRIS Scanners with ePoS devices, in addition to fingerprint based biometric/Aadhaar authentication system as per the specifications/norms of UIDAI, at all FPSs for establishing the identity and rightful targeting of all beneficiaries.
4. This alternative mode of authentication is also relevant for effective implementation of national portability under One Nation One Ration Card plan.

Yours faithfully,

  
(D.K Gupta)  
Director (PD)  
Tel: 011-23070429

Copy to:

Shri BVC Rao, Dy. Director General, NIC HQ, New Delhi – for extending necessary technical support to States/UTs for smooth implementation please.