



Aadhar Seeding for NREGS Card Holders

Why in News?

By mid-January 2024, Bihar is expected to complete the process of linking [Aadhar](#) cards of all job card holders under [MGNREGS \(Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee scheme\)](#).

- It is part of the Centre's directive to states to implement Aadhar-based payment of wages to beneficiaries under the scheme.

Key Points

- The Centre had made [AePS \(Aadhar enabled Payment System\)](#) mandatory for all job card holders under **MGNREGS from January 1**.
- It means **payments as wages** to beneficiaries for their work would be made **directly into their bank accounts linked and verified through their Aadhar number** after due mapping by [National Payments Corporation of India \(NCPI\)](#).
- **In Bihar**, the total number of **job card holders under MNREGA is 1.80 crore**, of which **1.52 crore have their bank accounts linked with their Aadhar** (unique identification) numbers.
 - Of these around **96 lakh active workers** (who have been working regularly), around **94 lakh have their bank accounts linked with Aadhar** while **79.63 lakh are eligible for payments under AePS**.
- In the **current fiscal year (2023-24)**, Bihar has **generated 15.64 crore mandays** (a day regarded in terms of the amount of work that can be done by one person within this period) so far **against the sanctioned 17 crore under the scheme**, which is meant to provide at least 100 days of work to unskilled rural workers in a year.
 - A proposal for grant of another **8 crore mandays for work generation in this fiscal would be sent by Bihar to the ministry of rural development**.

Aadhar

- It is a **12-digit individual identification number issued by the Unique Identification Authority of India** on behalf of the Government of India.
 - The number serves as **proof of identity and address, anywhere in India**.
- The Aadhaar number is unique for each individual and will **remain valid for life time**.
 - Establishes identity of individuals on the basis of demographic and biometric information.
- It will **help the residents to avail various services** provided by banking, mobile phone connections and other Government and Non-Government services in due course.