GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA GENERAL ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT (B)

PRESS RELEASE

Shillong, 26th February, 2025: The Government of Meghalaya highlights the importance of Aadhaar enrolment and the mandatory biometric updates for children and students to ensure seamless access to essential services.

Aadhaar Enrolment for Children & Mandatory Biometric Updates: There is no age limit for Aadhaar registration, and even newborns can be enrolled. For children aged 0-5 years, parents must provide their Aadhaar number along with the child's birth certificate at any Aadhaar Enrolment Centre. At this stage, only the child's photograph is captured, and no biometric data (fingerprints or iris scans) is collected.

For Children whose Aadhaar was already generated, it is essential to complete the mandatory biometric updates at two specific age intervals: 5 to <7 years and 15 to <17 years. These updates ensure the accuracy and reliability of the child's Aadhaar data as they grow.

Failure to Complete Aadhaar Biometric Updates (5-18 Years Age Group): Failure to complete these updates will result in <u>Aadhaar deactivation</u>. Many students have not yet completed the mandatory biometric updates, leading to difficulties in availing scholarships, registering for national-level entrance exams, and accessing services requiring Aadhaar authentication. Hence, it is advisable to complete these important updates to avoid inconvenience.

Aspirants for National-Level Entrance Exams: Aspirants planning to compete in national-level entrance exams such as NEET (UG)-2025 must ensure that their Aadhaar details are updated as per their 10th Marksheet/Passing Certificate and that their Aadhaar is linked to a valid mobile number for OTP-based authentication. This step is crucial for smooth registration, verification, and to enhance the integrity of the examination process.

Free Aadhaar Services: Aadhaar enrolment for all age groups, as well as mandatory biometric updates for . children aged 5 to <7 years and 15 to <17 years, are provided free of charge.

The Government of Meghalaya urges all citizens who have not yet enrolled for Aadhaar to do so at the earliest. Parents are particularly encouraged to complete Aadhaar registration for their children and ensure the mandatory biometric updates are done promptly to avoid inconvenience.

Citizens can visit Aadhaar enrolment centers at the Deputy Commissioner's Office or the Block • Development Office for enrolment and updates.

> Sd/-Dr. Joram Beda, IAS. Commissioner &Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya, and State Nodal Officer (Aadhaar) Dated Shillong, the 26th February, 2025.

Memo.No.GAB.14/2024/ 60-A

Copy to :-

- 1. The Commissioner & Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, and State Nodal Officer (Aadhaar) for favour of kind information.
- 2. The Commissioner & Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Education Department for favour of kind information.
- 3. The Director UIDAI Regional Office Guwahati for favour of information.
- 4. The Director, Information and Public Relation to kindly publish in local daily newspapers for creating wide publicity
- 5. The Under Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya Education Department to kindly to give wide publicity in educational institution.
- 6. The Director, of School Education and literacy to give wide publicity in educational institutions.