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Title: Regarding making Aadhar Card mandatory for centrally sponsored schemes.

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE (SREERAMPUR): Madam, I want to raise an important issue.

Aadhaar card has been made mandatory for receiving financial benefits and subsidies of the Government including LPG subsidy, Governmental scholarship, provident fund, pension, food security and other bank transfers. Only in West Bengal, nearly one crore people have not received aadhaar cards from UIDAI. As a result, many poor people are being deprived of such benefits.

Hence, the mandatory necessity of aadhaar card should be removed in the country and should be made optional.

Honourable Supreme Court has said that aadhaar card should not be made mandatory for receiving benefits from the Central Government.

Now, all the four States, that is, Bihar, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, are raising this issue before the Central Government repeatedly. Our hon. Chief Minister has also raised it with the hon. Prime Minister and other Ministers.

Now, the consequence is this. By reason of non-availability of aadhaar cards, poor people and people under BPL running into more than crores are not receiving any benefits from the Government. We need an answer from the concerned Minister. For people to receive the benefits, this should not be made mandatory.

One of our hon. Member's mother is not receiving family pension because of not having aadhaar card. One of the journalists of Delhi told me yesterday that his mother is not receiving family pension because of the non-availability of aadhaar card.

Therefore, I request that the mandatory provision of aadhaar card for receiving the benefits should be waived of immediately and until and unless each and everyone in this country – 124 crores of people of our country – gets the aadhaar card, it should not be made compulsory. This is our request. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Rabindra Kumar Jena and Shri N.K. Premachandran are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Kalyan Banerjee.