State of Aadhaar Report 2017-18

West Bengal

Key Takeaways

1. **Aadhaar’s coverage is widespread but quality of the data has room for improvement**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coverage</th>
<th>Data Quality</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of adults with an Aadhaar compared to Voter ID</td>
<td>Demographic error rate in Aadhaar (12.2%) and Voter ID (10.4%) is the highest in rural West Bengal, compared to Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   - **Coverage**
     - **Aadhaar**: 97.9%
     - **Voter ID**: 93.7%
   - **Data Quality**
     - **Types of error in Aadhaar**
       - Error in Name
       - Error in Address
       - Error in Date of Birth

   "This amounts to approximately 41 lakh adult residents of rural WB with errors in their Aadhaar letter."

   - **89%** of those with an error reported the source as being a data entry error at the Aadhaar centre/camp.
   - **38%** of the respondents with an error were successfully able to fix the error in their Aadhaar letter.

Sample description

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample description</th>
<th>West Bengal</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of sampled households</td>
<td>840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of sampled household members</td>
<td>3785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of sampled districts</td>
<td>7 (of 23)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dates of survey</td>
<td>Jan-Feb 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Aadhaar’s analog version (the letter) is much more widely used to open bank accounts than its digital version (e-KYC)**

Proportion of respondents who used Aadhaar for bank account openings, since 2014

- **50%** of the respondents who had a bank account used Aadhaar as an ID whereas **25%** used Aadhaar e-KYC
- **15%** of the respondents with a bank account in West Bengal had used a microATM in the last 3 months.
- **82%** found it easier to use a microATM compared to transacting at a bank, primarily because the lines were not too long.

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**Exclusion from food ration (PDS) due to Aadhaar-related factors is significant, but lower than non-Aadhaar factors in West Bengal**

0.8% of PDS beneficiaries (~5 lakh beneficiaries) are excluded monthly due to Aadhaar-related reasons, primarily because of non-seeding of Aadhaar to digitised ration cards.

However, **5.2%** of PDS beneficiaries (~34 lakh beneficiaries) are excluded due to non-Aadhaar related reasons, predominantly because ration is not available.

**Lessons for West Bengal from Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan:**

1. To minimise exclusion of beneficiaries, work on reconciling Aadhaar seeding issues.
2. Assess the current system to reduce exclusion due to ‘non-Aadhaar’ related factors.
3. Consider alternative offline authentication methods should the state decide to use Aadhaar authentication for ration delivery.