Aadhaar to work as big weapon against benami property: PM

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Noting that Aadhaar is helping in bringing about an "irreversible change" in people's interest, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said the Unique Identification Number will work as a "big weapon" in the fight against benami property too.

Aadhaar has a played a "big role" in ensuring that ration at proper rates, scholarships, pension and Government subsidies reached the poor, he said.

The Prime Minister made the remarks at the inaugural session of the 'Hindustan Times Leadership Summit - 2017' here.

"Linking Aadhaar with mobile and Jan Dhan accounts have evolved such a system which was not even thought of till some years ago -- a system which is irreversible," Modi said.

"Earlier, pension money was distributed in crores of fake accounts. All that has been addressed with the help of Aadhaar in the last three years," he said.

Modi said Aadhaar will now be used against benami property. "It is going to be a big weapon (in the fight against benami property)," he said.

Referring to demonetisation, he said note ban had brought about a "behavioural change" in the country. Corrupt people, for the first time after Independence, were scared of making illicit money, he said.

"The day the country will have a technical and digital address for all monetary transactions, organised corruption will be checked to a great extent," he said.

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Recently, Union Housing Minister Hardeep Singh Puri had reportedly said that property transactions would be linked to Aadhaar to eliminate black money from the real estate sector nd help in addressing the issue of benami property.