

3L Khatadars untraceable, 10L refuse to link Aadhaar

Koride.Mahesh
@timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: Giving credence to the fact that huge tracts of land are in the name of benamis, the revenue department could not determine ownership, in the case of over three lakh Khatadars (owners for land holdings). Apart from this, nearly 11 lakh land holdings have not been seeded with Aadhaar.

The revenue department began purification of land records in September last year under Land Revenue Updation Programme (LRUP), with the intention to not only update the programme, but also to link the Khatas with Aadhaar

53L khatas seeded with Aadhaar

When contacted, director of chief commissioner of land administration Vakati Karuna said the land records website is being updated every day. "As of now 53 lakh of total 75 lakh khatas have been seeded with Aadhaar. Every day two to three lakh are being added. We hope 95% to 99% would be linked in the next two weeks." TNN

number. Khata is a number (account) assigned to each farmer or owner of agriculture land. The three-digit number, printed on pattadar passbooks, will now be a 13-digit num-

ber as per the new proposal.

Official statistics of CCLA say, of the over three lakh untraceable Khatadars, the highest number of land holdings are in Nirmal district (25,692), Medak (24,000), Ranga Reddy (20,000) and Karimnagar (19,850). In districts like Nagar Kurnool, Sangar Reddy, ownership of 18,000 Khatas have not been identified. The lowest untraceable owners are in Bhadradri-Kothagudem district with 750 owners.

Apart from identifying owners, the revenue department is facing problem in linking land holdings (Khatas) with Aadhaar numbers. Many owners are not coming forward to link their land with Aadhaar,

and some even said they do not want the agriculture input subsidy announced by the state government.

Of the total 76 lakh land Khatas in 31 districts of the state, over 10 lakh have not given their Aadhaar numbers to revenue officials including 1.30 lakh in Khammam district, 80,000 in Ranga Reddy and over 40,000 Khatas in Bhadradri-Kothagudem district and Vikarabad district.

Chief minister K Chandrasekhar Rao held a review meeting on LRUP, where he stated that lands not linked with Aadhaar would be considered benami properties. For pattadar passbooks also, officials say, Aadhaar number is necessary.