

Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale

Bilagsnr.:	395
Land:	Indien
Kilde:	Danish National ID Centre
Titel:	India: The aadhaar number
Udgivet:	1. september 2020
Optaget på baggrundsmaterialet:	25. maj 2021



1 September 2020

Danish National ID Centre

Adelgade 13
DK-1304 Copenhagen K
DenmarkPhone +45 61 98 39 00
Email nidc@nidc.dk
Website www.nidc.dk

India: The aadhaar number

Introduction

The aadhaar number is a unique and individually assigned 12-digit number. It was introduced in 2011 as a mean of registering the population, and is controlled by the centralised institution, *the Unique Identification Authority of India* (UIDAI).¹ It is also referred to as the *unique identification number*.²

Any person residing more than 182 days in India are eligible for an aadhaar number and card, and there is no upper or lower cap on the age.

Through the aadhaar system, any municipal office in India can verify an identity by contacting the UIDAI.³ Originally, the aadhaar registration was intended to be voluntary, but has since 2016 been mandatory in order to receive governmental services.⁴

Aadhaar registration and issuance of the card

The aadhaar registration leads to the issuance of a unique identification number as well as an identity card. This identity card can be issued as both a physical and a digital card. It contains information regarding the holder's name, date of birth, gender, address and parents or guardians. Sensitive information about religion and caste does, however, not appear on the card.⁵

In order to have an aadhaar number and card issued, the applicant must be able to prove their identity and address. The information collected is:

- Address
- Name
- Gender
- Date of birth
- Phone numbers are collected on a voluntary basis.⁶

¹ Unique Identification Authority of India C, year of issue n/a.

² New Delhi Cantonment General Hospital, New Delhi, April 2018.

³ New Delhi Cantonment General Hospital, New Delhi, April 2018.

⁴ Human Rights Watch, 2018.

⁵ New Delhi Cantonment General Hospital, New Delhi, April 2018.

⁶ Nasjonalt ID-center, 2020.

The information provide must be corroborated by supporting documents, proving identity, date of birth and address. UIDAI operates with a list of acceptable supporting documents for verification. The list contains 32 different types of proof of identity, 15 types of proof of date of birth and 45 types of proof of address.⁷

UIDAI will collect biometric information from the applicant in connection with the application in the form of iris scan, ten fingerprints and facial photos.⁸ When registering children under the age of five, only the facial images will be recorded. Iris scan and fingerprints are recorded when the child is five years old and updated when they are 15 years old.⁹

Because the applicant's biometrics and demographic information is collected and stored when applying for an aadhaar number, it is only possible to register once. All following attempts of registering again will be denied.¹⁰

According to the Norwegian Nasjonalt ID-senter, 1.23 billion aadhaar numbers had been issued by April 2019. This number amounts to 90.4 % of the total Indian population. Children aged five and below have the lowest rate of registration with 27.5 % registered.¹¹

Changing personal information

It is possible to change the biometric information connected to one's aadhaar number (iris scan/facial image and finger prints). It is recommended by UIDAI that all holders of an aadhaar number update their biometric information every 10 years.¹² According to information on UIDAI's website, the aadhaar number will remain unchanged after an update of biometric information.

Corruption

In 2019 India was ranked as number 80 out of 180 countries on the Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index.¹³ The lower the ranking the higher the assessed level of corruption is. According to a Landinfo publication from 2012, genuine documents containing false information are widely available in India due to an insufficient system of civil registration and the general level of corruption.¹⁴

It has not been possible to establish to what extent the level of corruption in India specifically influences the aadhaar number or aadhaar card from the available information.

⁷ Unique Identification Authority of India, 9 May 2020.

⁸ New Delhi Cantonment General Hospital, New Delhi, April 2018; Unique Identification Authority of India C, year of issue n/a.

⁹ Nasjonalt ID-center, 2020.

¹⁰ Unique Identification Authority of India B, year of issue n/a.

¹¹ Nasjonalt ID-center, 2019.

¹² Unique Identification Authority of India A, year of issue n/a.

¹³ Transparency International, 2019.

¹⁴ Landinfo, 23 April 2012.

References

Oral source

New Delhi Cantonment General Hospital (April 2018) registrar and sub-registrar at the Municipal Office: Interviewed in New Delhi, India.

Written sources

Human Rights Watch (13 January 2018): *India: Identification Project Threatens Rights*, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2018/01/13/india-identification-project-threatens-rights>, retrieved 14 April, 2020.

Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (23 May 2018): *India: Requirements and procedures to obtain the Aadhaar number; use of the Aadhaar, including on accessing housing, employment and private and public services; whether authorities use Aadhaar registration to track individuals across the country (2017-April 2018)*, <https://www.refworld.org/docid/5b2bb2154.html>, retrieved 6 August 2020.

Landinfo (23 April 2012): *India: Pass og underlagsdokumenter*, <https://landinfo.no/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/India-Pass-og-underlagsdokumenter-23042012.pdf>, retrieved 14 March 2019

Ministry of Law and Justice in India, Legislative Department (26 March 2016): *The Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, No. 18 of 2016*, <https://www.prsindia.org/uploads/media/AADHAAR/Aadhaar%20act,%202016.pdf>, retrieved 20 April 2020.

Nasjonalt ID-center (25 June 2019): Aadhaar-nummer, Beskrivelse

Nasjonalt ID-center (8 May 2020): Aadhaar-nummer, Søknad og utstedelse

Transparency International (2019): Corruption Perceptions Index 2019, <https://www.transparency.org/cpi2019>, retrieved 6 August 2020.

Unique Identification Authority of India A (year of issue not available): <https://uidai.gov.in/my-aadhaar/about-your-aadhaar/updating-data-on-aadhaar.html>, retrieved 4 August 2020.

Unique Identification Authority of India B (year of issue not available): <https://uidai.gov.in/my-aadhaar/about-your-aadhaar/features-of-aadhaar.html>, retrieved 14 March 2019.

Unique Identification Authority of India C (year of issue not available): *What is Aadhaar*, <https://uidai.gov.in/my-aadhaar/about-your-aadhaar.html>, retrieved 20 April 2020.

Unique Identification Authority of India (9 May 2020) List of Acceptable Supporting Documents for Verification, https://uidai.gov.in/images/commddoc/valid_documents_list.pdf, retrieved 6 August 2020.

United Kingdom: Home Office (February 2015): *Country Information and Guidance – India: Background information, including actors of protection, and internal relocation*, <https://www.refworld.org/docid/54d4a0274.html>, retrieved 14 March 2019.