

Aadhaar Amendment Act

May 15, 2020

What is Aadhaar?

- Aadhaar is a verifiable **12-digit** identification number issued by UIDAI to the **residents** of India.

What are the amendments to the Act?

The salient features of the amendments are as follows:

- Provides for **voluntary use** of Aadhaar number in physical or electronic form by authentication or **offline verification** with the consent of Aadhaar number holder;
- Provides for use of twelve-digit Aadhaar number and its alternative virtual identity to **conceal the actual Aadhaar number** of an individual;
- Gives an option to children who are Aadhaar number holders to cancel their Aadhaar number on attaining the age of eighteen years;
- Permits the entities to perform authentication **only when they are compliant with the standards of privacy and security** specified by the Authority; and the authentication is permitted under any law made by Parliament or is prescribed to be in the interest of State by the Central Government;
- Allows the use of Aadhaar number for authentication on voluntary basis as **acceptable KYC document under the Telegraph Act, 1885 and the Prevention of Money-laundering Act, 2002**;
- Proposes deletion of section 57 of the Aadhaar Act relating to use of Aadhaar by private entities;
- **Prevents denial of services** for refusing to, or being unable to, undergo authentication;
- Provides for establishment of **Unique Identification Authority of India Fund**;
- Provides for **civil penalties, its adjudication, appeal**

thereof in regard to violations of Aadhaar Act and provisions by entities in the Aadhaar ecosystem.