

Digi Locker

January 8, 2021

In news

Aadhaar, 24x7 helpline, DigiLocker: Govt gets ready to roll out Covid-19 vaccine.

What is Digital Locker?

- DigiLocker is an online service provided **by the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY)**, Government of India under its Digital India initiative, **aimed at minimizing the usage of physical documents** and enabling sharing of e-documents across agencies.
- DigiLocker is a platform for issuance and verification of documents and certificates in a digital way. **You can use DigiLocker to store all your documents.** It is linked to both your Aadhaar card and cellphone numbers, available both on websites and mobile apps.
- To use DigiLocker you **need to possess an Aadhar card.** For sign-up, the Aadhar card number and the one-time password sent to the Aadhar-associated mobile number, need to be entered. For later log-ins, you can set your own password or link the account to Facebook login.

Objectives of Digital Locker

Given below are the key objectives with which the Digital Locker was introduced by the Government of India:

- To Enable digital empowerment among the citizens of the country
- To minimize the physical usage of documents and enable the feature of e-signing by making documents available electronically
- Digital Locker will increase the authenticity of documents by online upload and reduce the existence of

fake documents

- Web portals and mobile applications shall be made available for easy access
- Reduce the administrative overhead of Government departments and agencies
- With the availability of documents online on the cloud, residents can easily access the documents anytime and anywhere
- Make sharing of documents easy
- Ensure privacy and authorized access to residents' data.

What is Aadhaar?

- Aadhaar is a **unique identification number** which is issued to all Indian residents under section 3 of **The Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016**.

- This **12 digit unique identity number** issued by UIDAI (Unique identification authority of India) on behalf of Government of India to serve as a proof of identity anywhere in India.

Benefit of Aadhaar

- It is available in 2 forms, physical and electronic form i.e. (e-Aadhaar).
- Any resident (a person who has resided in India for 182 days, in the one year preceding the date of application for enrollment for Aadhaar) of India irrespective of age, sex, class can avail it.
- The UID authority will authenticate the Aadhaar number of an individual, if an entity makes such a request. A requesting entity (an agency or person that wants to authenticate information of a person) has to obtain the consent of an individual before collecting his information. Benefits of Aadhaar
 - A. Individual.
 - Easy hassle free access to services (banking, LPG, phone number, etc).
 - Migrants: Provides identification to a large number of migrant laborers to avail services.
 - Financial inclusion: The identification enables easy opening of bank accounts leading to financial inclusion of rural folks and ease of operations for banks through Banking Correspondent.
 - B. Administrative.
 - Online cost effective verification of beneficiaries leads to Good Governance (minimum government maximum Governance).
 - Unique and robust platform to check duplication and ghost cards.
 - Subsidy costs can be hugely reduced by cutting down intermediaries and eliminating ghost cards.
 - As only one identity card is provided to a person (linked to individual biometrics), there is incentive to be genuine.