

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 342
ANSWERED ON 02.04.2025

APAAR ID System and Data privacy

342 SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has assessed concerns regarding the Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry ID (APAAR ID) system, and, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether steps have been taken to keep it voluntary and compliant with the Supreme Court's Aadhaar ruling, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the measures to address data privacy risks in collecting and handling minors' data; and
- (d) whether Government plans to introduce legal safeguards for student data protection and transparency, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)**

(a) & (d): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) to (D) IN RESPECT OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 342 ANSWERED ON 02.04.2025 REGARDING “APAAR ID SYSTEM AND DATA PRIVACY” ASKED BY SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY, HON’BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

(a) to (d) The Government of India has framed the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 to promote holistic, multidisciplinary education, and enable multiple entry and exit system. NEP 2020 also aims to provide universal access to education across all levels, foster equitable and inclusive education, and establish a lifelong learning ecosystem.

To accomplish these goals, a registry framework is necessary to identify each entity and track the academic and skilling journey of learners throughout their lives. This framework has multiple uses, such as credit accumulation, credit-transfer and authentication of records. Additionally, it aims to facilitate the integration of vocational and general education, choice-based courses, and innovative curricula based on student’s requirements.

Accordingly, the Ministry of Education launched the Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) Scheme in July 2021 to provide a 12 digit unique digital identity for every student/ learner for seamless interaction among stakeholders in the education ecosystem. This 12 digit unique id has been termed “Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry” (APAAR ID). APAAR ID is designed to accumulate academic and skill credits earned throughout a learner’s journey.

Digital India Corporation (DIC) under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY) is the technology partner for the Ministry of Education for the implementation of the ABC scheme. DIC has implemented robust support mechanisms on ABC website, such as daily video conference for academic institutions; ticketing systems for efficient query resolution; and a dedicated helpline for direct assistance to students and institutions. Additionally, zonal and state nodal officers have been nominated by DIC to facilitate coordination with state administrations and institutions, while online programs like "Ask Our Experts" address specific concerns through social media.

The APAAR ID enrolment is voluntary and consent based. The consent is provided by the parents/ guardians in case of school students. Detailed process for enrolment for students/ learners and institutions is available on <https://www.abc.gov.in>. All State Governments have also been communicated the process to be followed for enrolment of the students along with the role of the parents in the process. To enhance transparency, APAAR-related resources are accessible in all major Indian languages at <https://apaar.education.gov.in/resource>.

The APAAR adheres to data privacy and security measures, as outlined in its Privacy Policy, which is available at <https://apaar.education.gov.in/privacy-policy>. Further, Data Security and Privacy guidelines/rules/regulations issued from time to time by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) have been followed.
