

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1493
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 01.08.2025

STATUS AND DEFINITION OF AADHAAR CARDS

1493. SMT. SAGARIKA GHOSE:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Aadhaar card has not been included as proof of identity by the Election Commission (EC) in the recent Special Intensive Revision (SIR);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the definition of Aadhaar and the places it is accepted as proof of identity;
- (d) the areas in which Aadhaar is not considered as a proof of identity; and
- (e) whether there is a systematic and precise document being prepared to inform citizens of the ambit of Aadhaar and its uses, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) to (e): Aadhaar is a 12-digit unique identification number issued by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) to **residents (individual who has resided in India for 182 days or more in last 12 months) or a Non-Resident Indian**, based on their biometric and demographic data.

Aadhaar serves as a digital identity for accessing government services and welfare benefits for which the expenditure is made from the Consolidated Fund of India or the Consolidated Funds of States.

Aadhaar is accepted as proof of identity in various sectors, including government welfare schemes, banking, telecom (for SIM activation), travel bookings, and educational services, where it aids in efficient authentication.

However, Aadhaar is **not a proof of citizenship or domicile**.

While Aadhaar facilitates service delivery, its use remains voluntary, with legal and technical safeguards to protect individual rights, security and privacy.

UIDAI has put in place systematic and precise documents in form of regulations viz 'the Aadhaar (Authentication and Offline Verification) Regulations, 2021 and 'the Aadhaar (Sharing of Information) Regulations, 2016' informing individuals about the ambit and uses of Aadhaar.

Apart from these regulations, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and press releases have been released by UIDAI to inform citizens regarding the same.

As per information received from Election Commission of India, Aadhaar number is taken from the electors in the SIR Enumeration Form, as an optional field, as a proof of identity.
