

AADHAAR

- 12-digit unique identity number that can be obtained by residents of India, based on their biometric and demographic data.
- Data is collected by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), a statutory authority established in January 2009 by the Government of India, under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, under the provisions of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and other Subsidies, benefits and services) Act, 2016.

APPRECIATION

- In the lecture on ‘Technology for Transformation’ organised by NITI Aayog, Gates had said that Aadhaar is something that had never been done by any government before, not even in a rich country.
- Aadhaar is world’s most sophisticated programme – **World Bank**

AADHAAR SEEDING

- Aadhaar seeding is a process by which Aadhaar numbers of residents are included in the service delivery database of service providers for enabling de - duplication of database and Aadhaar based authentication during service delivery.

WHAT IS AABA?

- Aadhaar-based Biometric Authentication (ABBA)
- The government has made seeding and the ABBA mandatory in the PDS.

SUPREME COURT VERDICTS

- In August 2017, SC upheld the right to privacy as a fundamental right under the Constitution. There is an apprehension that Aadhaar number is used for surveillance and profiling people based on caste, religion, income, health and geography through biometric data thus violating their Right to Privacy.
- There was news last year that 11-year-old girl in Jharkhand died of starvation, months after her family’s ration card was cancelled because it was not linked to their Aadhaar number. However, SC guidelines made it clear that beneficiaries cannot be denied access to welfare scheme even if they don’t have Aadhaar.

PRIVACY ISSUE

- Central Identities Data Repository (CIDR)
- Biometric information, identity information and personal information.
- Section 8, of course, includes some safeguards against possible misuse of identity information. A requesting entity is supposed to use identity information only with one’s consent, and only for the purpose mentioned in the consent statement.

OTHER ISSUES

- Elder people have rough fingerprint.
- Aadhaar is mass surveillance technology.
- Participation in the program is a requirement for filing taxes, opening bank accounts, receiving school lunch in the state of Uttar Pradesh, purchasing railway tickets online, accessing some public Wi-Fi, participating in the state of Karnataka's universal health-care coverage, and benefiting from a wide range of welfare programs. This increased ambit of usage of Aadhaar has also raised privacy concerns.

SOLUTIONS

- Crafting an encryption policy that specifically addresses encryption for Aadhaar-enabled apps
- To set up a dedicated Computer Emergency Response Team to monitor attacks or intrusions on the database.
- Introduction of Smart cards. Smart cards which require pins on the other hand require the citizens' conscious cooperation during the identification process.

CERT

- A computer emergency response team (CERT) is an expert group that handles computer security incidents.

SOLUTIONS

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SMART CARD

- Disposable
- Like UK government in 2010.
- Eliminate the risk of foreign government, criminals and terrorists using the breached biometric database to remotely identify Indians.

WAY TO GO....

- Spread digital literacy.
- Rural electrification.
- Inclusion of Aaganwadi workers.

TEST

1. Unique Identification Authority of India is a/an:
- Autonomous body
 - Statutory body
 - Government body
 - Partial government aided body

Ans: (b)

2. Aadhaar is a:
- 12-digit unique identity number
 - 11-digit unique identity number
 - 10-digit unique identity number
 - 13-digit unique identity number

Ans: (a)

3. Aadhaar seeding is a/an:
- Inclusion of aadhaar number in the service delivery database of service providers.
 - Checking of aadhaar number service delivery database of service providers
 - Removal of aadhaar number service delivery database of service providers
 - None of the above

Ans: (a)

4. Full form of ABBA is:
- Aadhaar-based Biological Authentication
 - Aadhaar-based Biometric Authentication
 - Aadhaar-based Biometric Authority
 - Aadhaar-based Biological Authority

Ans: (b)

5. Which section of the Aadhaar act, includes some safeguards against possible misuse of identity information?
- Section 9
 - Section 8
 - Section 6
 - Section 7

Ans: (b)

6. Types of information included in the Aadhaar Act are:
- Biometric information
 - Identity information
 - Personal information
 - All of the above

Ans: (d)

7. CERT is for:
- a. Cyber Security
 - b. Currency evaluation
 - c. Both a and b
 - d. None of the above

Ans: (a)