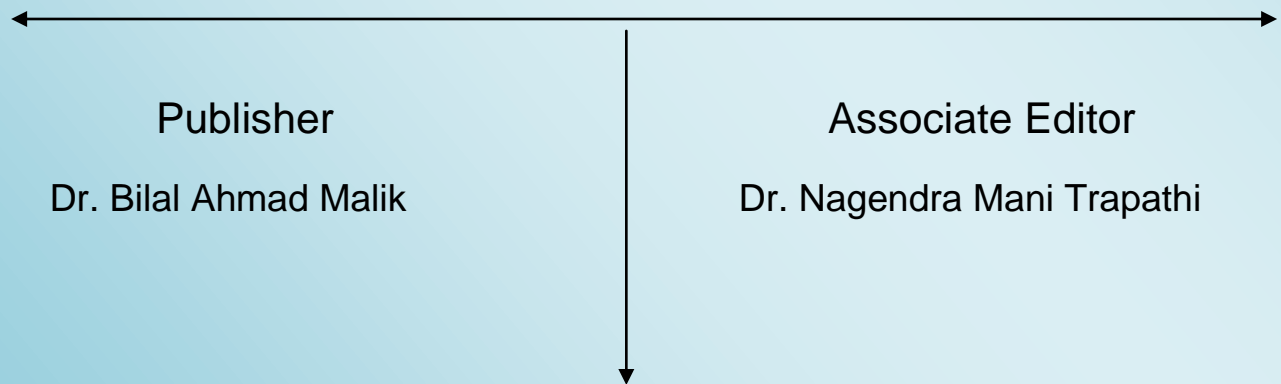


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ADVANTAGES & DISADVANTAGES OF UNIQUE IDENTITY NUMBER (AADHAAR)

DR. ASHAK HUSSAIN MALIK

INTRODUCTION

Aadhaar is a 12 digit individual identification number issued by the Unique Identification Authority of India on behalf of the Government of India. This number will serve as a proof of identity and address, anywhere in India. Any individual, irrespective of age and gender, who is a resident in India and satisfies the verification process laid down by the UIDAI, can enroll for Aadhaar. Each individual needs to enroll only once for Aadhaar, which is free of cost. Each Aadhaar will be unique to an individual and will remain valid for life. Aadhaar will help you provide access to services like banking, mobile phone connections and other Government and Non-Government services in due course. The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) is a central government agency of India. Its objective is to collect the biometric and demographic data of residents, store them in a centralised database, and issue a 12-digit unique identity number called Aadhaar to each resident. It is considered the world's largest national identification number project.

HISTORY AADHAAR

In 1999 after the Kargil war, the Kargil Review Committee, headed by security analyst K. Subrahmanyam, was formed to study the state of national security. It submitted its report to Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee on 7 January 2000. Among its various recommendations, was the proposal that citizens in villages in border region be issued identity cards on a priority basis, later such id cards should be issued to all people living in border states he UIDAI was established on 28 January 2009 after the Planning Commission of India issued a notification. On 23 June 2009, Nandan Nilekani, the co-founder of Infosys, was appointed by the United Progressive Alliance government to head the project. He was given the newly created position of the Chairman of UIDAI which was equivalent to a Cabinet minister. In April 2010, the logo and the brand name *Aadhaar* was launched by Nilekani. In May 2010, Nilakani said he would support a legislation to protect the data held by the UIDAI.

In July 2010, UIDAI published a list 15 of agencies which were qualified to provide training to personnel to be involved in the enrollment process. It also published a list of 220 agencies which were qualified to take part in the enrollment process. Before this, the project had been only 20 states and with Life Insurance Corporation of India and State Bank of India as qualified registrars. This announcement introduced several private firms. It was estimated that to achieve the target of enrolling 40% of the population in two years, 31,019 personnel would be required and 155 training centres would be required to train them. It was also estimated that 4,431 enrollment centres and 22,157 enrollment stations would have to be established On 7 February 2012, the UIDAI launched an online verification system for Aadhar numbers. Using the system banks, telecom companies and government departments could enter an Aadhaar number and verify if the person was a resident of India. On 26 November 2012, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh launched an Aadhaar-linked direct benefit transfer scheme. The project aimed to eliminate leakages in the system by directly transferring the money to the bank account of the recipient. The project was to be introduced in 51 districts on 1 January 2013 and then slowly expanded to cover all of India. During the budget presentation on 29 February 2016, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley announced that a bill will be introduced within a week to provide legislative support to the Aadhaar. On 3 March 2016, the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Bill, 2016 was introduced in the Parliament as a money bill by Jaitley The decision to introduce it as a money bill was criticised by the opposition parties. Ghulam Nabi Azad, an INC leader, wrote in a letter to the Jaitley that the ruling party BJP was trying to bypass the Rajya Sabha, as they did not have the majority in the upper house. A money bill is only required to pass in the lower house Lok Sabha. Tathagata Satpathy of Biju Janata Dal (BJD) raised concerns that the project could be used for mass surveillance or ethnic cleansing in the future.

On 11 March 2016, the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and other Subsidies, benefits and services) Act, 2016, was passed in the Lok Sabha.^[11] During the Rajya Sabha debate on 16 March, Sitaram Yechury of Communist Party of India (Marxist) (CPI-M) said that bill should not have been passed when the issue right to privacy was still in the Supreme Court. On 16 March 2016, the bill was returned to the Lok Sabha by the Rajya Sabha with some suggested amendments. The Lok Sabha was free to accept or reject the amendments. But, Lok Sabha rejected the amendments

STATE WISE ENROLMENT OF AADHAAR

Rank	State / Union Territory	Population	AADHAARs Issued	% of Population
	INDIA	1,278,229,800	1,091,210,144	85.4%
1	Delhi	17,720,573	20,368,794	114.9%
2	Telangana	37,253,813	37,845,796	101.6%
3	Haryana	26,816,977	27,154,514	101.3%
4	Punjab	29,303,888	29,449,936	100.5%
5	Himachal Pradesh	7,252,406	7,258,776	100.1%
6	Chandigarh	1,115,584	1,105,098	99.1%
7	Lakshadweep	68,149	67,491	99.0%
8	Kerala	35,315,493	34,635,287	98.1%
9	Puducherry	1,316,320	1,277,704	97.1%
10	Chhattisgarh	27,014,896	26,170,165	96.9%
11	Andhra Pradesh	52,229,924	50,534,000	96.8%
12	Goa	1,541,892	1,488,136	96.5%
13	A & N Islands	401,882	387,481	96.4%
14	Jharkhand	34,869,720	33,380,482	95.7%
15	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	362,649	345,636	95.3%
16	Tripura	3,882,999	3,624,097	93.3%
17	Maharashtra	118,861,427	109,978,948	92.5%
18	Sikkim	642,776	588,623	91.6%
19	Karnataka	64,660,412	58,938,533	91.2%
20	Uttarakhand	10,700,897	9,733,906	91.0%
21	Madhya Pradesh	76,789,374	69,624,526	90.7%
22	Gujarat	62,100,000	55,422,216	89.2%
23	Tamil Nadu	76,304,287	66,795,936	87.5%
24	Rajasthan	72,583,213	62,073,248	85.5%
25	Odisha	44,369,413	37,304,751	84.1%
26	West Bengal	96,622,186	80,343,549	83.2%
27	Uttar Pradesh	211,105,381	168,642,387	79.9%

Rank	State / Union Territory	Population	AADHAARs Issued	% of Population
	INDIA	1,278,229,800	1,091,210,144	85.4%
28	Daman & Diu	256,937	203,949	79.4%
29	Bihar	109,798,353	80,890,110	73.7%
30	Manipur	2,878,911	1,919,012	66.7%
31	Jammu Kashmir	13,273,505	8,810,498	66.4%
32	Arunachal Pradesh	1,462,443	914,655	62.5%
33	Nagaland	2,094,963	1,130,066	53.9%
34	Mizoram	1,154,010	578,556	50.1%
35	Meghalaya	3,135,150	266,666	8.5%
36	Assam	32,968,997	1,956,616	5.9%

Source: Aadhar India,

Note: Percentage figures are with respect to 2015 estimated population.

As of 26 November 2016, 1.07 billion Aadhaar numbers have been authenticated.

EXPENDITURE OF AADHAAR FISCAL YEAR 2010 - 2015

Expenditure by UIDAI (by year)	
Fiscal year	Expenditure
2009-10	₹262.1 million (US\$3.9 million)
2010-11	₹2.6841 billion (US\$40 million)
2011-12	₹11.8750 billion (US\$180 million)
2012-13	₹13.3872 billion (US\$200 million)
2013-14	₹15.4444 billion (US\$230 million)
2014-15	₹1,615.34 crore (US\$240 million)
Total	₹59.8062 billion (US\$890 million)

ADVANTAGES OF UNIQUE IDENTITY NUMBER (AADHAAR)

- In several Government department various documentary proof are required, the unique identity number will reduce the burden of various identity proof.
- .For a long time India is facing various frauds in identity as some bad people of society has created various fake identity for their individual benefits. Aadhar India will help in finish all such kind of things.
- Various type of duplication of data can be stopped with the help of UIN.
- Aadhar India will serve as a simple solution to various kind of documentary proof.
- Aadhar India will contain all kind of personal details so there will be no need to provide various personal details again and again.
- Aadhaar is a unique number, and no resident can have a duplicate number since it is linked to their individual biometrics; thereby identifying fake and ghost identities which result in leakages today.
- Aadhaar is a universal number, and agencies and services can contact the central Unique Identification database from anywhere in the country to confirm a beneficiary's identity.
- A problem in reaching benefits to poor and marginalized residents is that they often lack the identification documents they need to receive State benefits; the 'Introducer' system which has been approved for data verification for the UIDAI will enable such residents to establish an identity.
- The UID-enabled-Bank-Account network will offer a secure and low cost platform to directly remit benefits to residents without the heavy costs associated today with benefit distribution.
- Tthe UIDAI will offer online authentication services for agencies who wish to validate a resident's identity; this service will enable confirmation of the entitlement actually reaching the intended beneficiary.

DISADVANTAGES OF UNIQUE IDENTITY NUMBER (AADHAAR)

- ❖ Aadhar India project is to be accomplished by private companies. Foreign companies may also be included in it. Hence individual data of people will not be safe.
- ❖ Centralization of data will create various kind of problems to government and people.
- ❖ Finding of personal details of person will become too easier. Hence this will be unsafe in terms of privacy.
- ❖ If this is used for bank transaction or ATM cum Debit cum Credit cards, it will make easier for bad people of society to misuse them.

- ❖ People will find the card as very useful tool for us but this will also create some insecurity for us. Centralization might turned to be a danger in future. Hence it is expected to keep safety of data specially as this would be electronic computer database and we specially government are facing hacking of our computer data.

HOW THE AADHAAR INDIA CAN BE USED FOR VARIOUS PURPOSES

Indian government is planning to use Aadhar India not only for identity but for the various other purposes. The Aadhar India is expected to be come out with various purposes. Some of the areas where it can be used are:

- ❖ The Income Tax authority of India has planned to use UIN as PAN card.
- ❖ RBI is looking for UIN as this would help in finding all the bank account of a person with ease. It would be mandatory to provide your UIN to your bank to open a new bank account or to operate in current bank account.
- ❖ The UIN is also being to use as phone no. of individual. The unique no. of person will become his phone no. However this is possible only when there no use alphabet is made in UIN.
- ❖ This would also serve as license.
- ❖ For various monetary transaction providing UIN detail would be necessary, this will help in reducing black money transfer.
- ❖ The UIN card is also purposed to be used as ATM cum Debit cum Credit card.
- ❖ Therefore Aadhar India is expected to serve both people cum government. It posses various benefits to government and people. But we should also consider that every coin has two sides. Aadhar India may also be misused. Some of the which may occur due to Aadhar India are:

IS AADHAAR MANDATORY?

No Aadhaar is not mandatory. the Supreme Court of India issued an interim order on dated On 23 September 2013 an interim order saying that "no person should suffer for not getting Aadhaar" as the government cannot deny a service to a resident if s/he does not possess Aadhaar, as it is voluntary and not mandatory. In another interim order on 11 August 2015, the Supreme Court of India ruled that "UIDAI/Aadhaar will not be used for any other purposes except PDS, kerosene and LPG distribution system" and made it clear that even for availing these facilities Aadhaar card will not be mandatory

CONCLUSION

The present study reported that UIDAI will not be used for any other purposes except PDS, kerosene and LPG distribution system" and made it clear that even for availing these facilities Aadhaar card will not be mandatory.

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