

c/s

No. HQ-30011/3/2025-AU-HO  
Unique Identification Authority of India  
(Aadhaar Usage Division)

Aadhaar Head Office  
Behind Kali Mandir, Bangla Sahib Road,  
Gele Market,  
New Delhi-110001  
Dated: 30 April, 2026

CIRCULAR

Subject: Validity of Aadhaar Verifiable Credential shown, shared and/or verified through Aadhaar Application.

Reference:

1. Validity of downloaded Aadhaar (e-Aadhaar) as a proof of identity issued vide circular dated 28.04.2017.
2. Introduction of Aadhaar Card for use at par with other forms of Aadhaar like Aadhaar letter, e-Aadhaar, masked e-Aadhaar and m-Aadhaar dated 29.09.2020.

The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) is a statutory body established under section 11 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act 2016 which came into force on 12.9.2016. UIDAI is mandated to issue a 12-digit unique identity number called an Aadhaar Number to the residents based on demographic and biometric information submitted by the resident to UIDAI during enrolment.

2. As per Section 4(3) of Aadhaar Act, 2016:

*"Every Aadhaar number holder to establish his identity, may voluntarily use his Aadhaar number in physical or electronic form by way of authentication or offline verification or in such other form as may be notified, in such manner as may be specified by the regulations"*

3. As a step towards enhancing digital enablement, UIDAI has launched a new Aadhaar Application, namely, "Aadhaar App". The Aadhaar App is available on both Android and iOS platforms. It enables the Aadhaar number holders to show, share and verify their identity in a digital manner. However, while sharing the identity details to an Offline Verification Seeking Entity (OVSE) through Aadhaar App, the 12-digit Aadhaar number is not transferred. The Aadhaar App provides the option to share either complete or partial identity details in the form of Aadhaar Verifiable Credentials of the Aadhaar number holder. The detail so shared is legally valid in terms of the provisions of Information Technology Act, 2000, which provides legal recognition to electronic records.

4. In light of the provisions of Aadhaar Act, 2016 and regulation mentioned above, Aadhaar verifiable credentials shown, shared and/or verified through the "Aadhaar App" are legally valid form to establish identity of Aadhaar number holder, in addition to other forms like Aadhaar letter, e-Aadhaar, masked e-Aadhaar, Aadhaar Card and m-Aadhaar as notified earlier.

5. All the Ministries/Departments/State Governments/Autonomous Bodies/Authorities/other agencies accepting Aadhaar as proof of identity are requested to accept Aadhaar shown and/or shared through the "Aadhaar App" as a valid establishment of identity of the Aadhaar number holder and issue necessary instructions to all concerned.

  
(Praveen Chaudhary)  
Director (AU)

Copy to:

1. Secretaries to the Government of India, All Ministries/ Departments of Government of India.
2. All Chief Secretaries to the State Government/Union Territories.
3. All autonomous bodies
4. All DDGs of UIDAI HO and ROs