

One Nation, One Student ID

Source: IE

Why in News?

Recently, several state governments requested schools to seek parental consent for the creation of a **new** student identity card known as the Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry (APAAR).

 This is part of the 'One nation, One Student ID' initiative of the Union government, stemming from the new National Education Policy of 2020.

What is the Purpose of APAAR, the ID for Students?

About:

- Under the initiative, each student would get a lifelong APAAR ID, making it easy for the learners, schools, and governments to track academic progress from pre-primary education to higher education.
- APAAR would also serve as a gateway to <u>Digilocker</u>, a digital system where students can store their important documents and achievements, such as exam results and report cards.

Need For Introduction:

- The goal behind introducing APAAR is to make **education hassle-free and reduce the need for students** to carry physical documents.
- The vision is to create a positive change, allowing state governments to track literacy rates, dropout rates, and more, helping them make improvements.
- APAAR also aims to reduce fraud and duplicate educational certificates by providing a single, trusted reference for educational institutions.

How Will the APAAR ID Work?

Linkage with the Academic Bank Credit (ABC):

Every individual will have a unique APAAR ID, which will be linked to the <u>Academic Bank</u> <u>Credit (ABC)</u>, which is a digital storehouse that contains information of the credits earned by students throughout their learning journey.

Change of Schools:

- If the student changes schools, whether within the state or to another state, all her data in the ABC gets transferred to her new school just by sharing the APAAR ID.
 - Students won't need to provide physical documents or transfer certificates.

Enrolment for APAAR:

- To sign up for APAAR, students will have to provide basic information such as name, age, date of birth, gender, and a photograph. This information will be verified using their Aadhar number.
- Students will need to sign a consent form, and they can choose to either accept or decline sharing their Aadhar number and demographic information with the Ministry of Education for creating the APAAR ID.
 - For minors, parents will have to sign the consent form, allowing the Ministry to use the student's Aadhar number for authentication with **UIDAI**.

• Registration for creating an APAAR ID is voluntary, not mandatory.

What are the Concerns Surrounding APAAR?

- Issues of Privacy:
 - Parents and students have concerns about sharing their Aadhar details because they worry that their personal information could be leaked to outside parties.
- Concerns with UDISE+:
 - The government says that the information shared by students will be kept confidential
 and will not be shared with any third party except for entities engaged in educational
 activities, such as the <u>Unified District Information System for Education Plus</u>
 (<u>UDISE+</u>) database.
 - But there are **no laid down guidelines** for UDISE+ to strictly adhere to in order to prevent any breach of data.

United Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+)

- It is one of the largest Management Information Systems on school education. It was launched in 2018-2019 to speed up data entry, reduce errors, improve data quality and ease its verification.
- It is an application to collect the school details about factors related to a school and its resources.
 - It is an updated and improved version of UDISE, which was initiated in 2012-13 by the Ministry of Education.
- It covers more than 1.49 million schools, 9.5 million teachers, and over 265 million students.
- It helps measure the education parameters from classes 1 to 12 in government and private schools across India.

UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

Prelims

Q. Which of the following provisions of the Constitution does India have a bearing on Education? (2012)

- 1. Directive Principles of State Policy
- 2. Rural and Urban Local Bodies
- 3. Fifth Schedule
- 4. Sixth Schedule
- 5. Seventh Schedule

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- **(b)** 3, 4 and 5 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 5 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Ans- (d)

