



# APAAR: One Nation One Student ID Card

[Source: PIB](#)

## Why in News?

Recently, the National Conference on [APAAR: One Nation One Student ID Card](#) was held in New Delhi.

- Vital interconnection between **APAAR IDs**, the [Academic Bank of Credit](#), and [Digilocker](#), facilitating streamlined operations, was also highlighted in the event.

## What is APAAR?

- **About:** APAAR, an acronym for **Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry**, is a specialised identification system designed for all students in India, beginning from an early age.
  - It is introduced in accordance with the [National Education Policy \(NEP\) of 2020](#) and the [National Credit and Qualifications Framework \(NCrF\)](#).
  - Registration for an APAAR ID is voluntary, not mandatory.
- **Objective:** It aims to streamline and enhance the academic experience for students throughout India by assigning a **unique and permanent 12-digit ID to each student**, consolidating their academic records into a single accessible platform.
  - It is emphasised as not only a vital tool for tracking the educational progress of 260 million students in India but also as an **aspirational and globally recognized document for students**.
- **Benefits:**
  - APAAR ensures accountability and transparency in education by tracking student progress and streamlining academic records.
  - It enhances efficiency, combats fraud, and includes co-curricular achievements for holistic student development.
  - With multiple use cases, APAAR facilitates a smooth transfer process and supports **data-driven decision-making** in educational institutions.
  - It also enables students to easily share their academic records for enhanced access to employment.
- **Related Concerns:**
  - **Privacy Concerns:** Consolidating academic records into a centralised database raises concerns about the privacy and security of student data.
    - The proliferation of digital identities through APAAR IDs may increase the risk of **identity theft or fraudulent activities**, requiring robust security measures.
  - **Digital Divide:** There is a risk that students from **marginalised or remote communities** may not have equal access to digital platforms, potentially widening existing educational disparities.

## What is the Academic Bank of Credits and DigiLocker?

- **Academic Bank of Credits:** As per NEP 2020, the Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) has been envisaged to facilitate the **academic mobility of students** with the freedom to study across the education Institutions in the country with an appropriate "**credit transfer**" **mechanism** from one programme to another.

- If the student changes schools, whether within the state or to another state, all their data in the ABC gets transferred to her/his new school just by sharing the **APAAR ID**.
- **DigiLocker:** It is a cloud-based platform that allows users to store, issue, and verify documents and certificates digitally.
  - It is a flagship initiative of the **Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY)** under [Digital India programme](#).
  - The issued documents in DigiLocker system are deemed to be at par with original physical documents as per **Rule 9A of the Information Technology (Preservation and Retention of Information by Intermediaries providing Digital Locker facilities) Rules, 2016**.

Read more: [CBSE to Introduce Credit System](#)

## 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)**

### Mains

**Q1.** How have digital initiatives in India contributed to the functioning of the education system in the country? Elaborate on your answer. **(2020)**