

APAAR ID

Source: TH

The **Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry (APAAR) ID**, aims to **standardize student records.** However, concerns over **implementation, data privacy** have sparked debates among activists.

- APAAR ID: Introduced under the <u>National Education Policy 2020</u> and aligned with the <u>National Credit Framework</u>, it aims to establish a "One Nation, One Student ID" system to streamline academic records and facilitate transitions between educational levels.
 - APAAR assigns a 12-digit ID, linking academic records to <u>DigiLocker</u> and <u>Academic</u> <u>Bank of Credits</u> for storage and verification.
 - Schools record data, while Higher Education Institutions & Skill Institutes access verified academic records for admissions and recruitment.
- Concerns About APAAR ID: APAAR's Aadhaar linkage is causing issues due to spelling mismatches, necessitating updates.
 - While the Education Ministry claims APAAR is voluntary, Central Board of Secondary Education's push for 100% enrolment of APAAR raises concerns of implicit mandates, contradicting the Supreme Court ruling in *Justice (Retd.) K.S. Puttaswamy v. Union of India (2019),* which held that Aadhaar cannot be required for basic education access.

 The Advocacy groups are concerned about risks in handling minors' sensitive personal data without robust data protection.

• The **Data Protection Act, 2023** (not yet enforced) mandates that consent **must be free, informed, and unambiguous**, which activists argue is being ignored.

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Read more: APAAR: One Nation One Student ID Card

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