

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (Bharat Sarkar)
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (Rail Mantralaya)
(RAILWAY BOARD)**

No. 2011/TG-I/20/P/ID

New Delhi, dated 23.05.2017

**Chief Commercial Managers,
All Zonal Railways.**

(Commercial Circular No. 35 of 2017)

Sub: Accepting e-Aadhaar as one of the prescribed proofs of identity.

- Ref:(a) Board's letter no. 2008/TG-I/10/P/e-ticket ID dated 06.08.2010
(Commercial Circular No. 36 of 2010)**
- (b) Board's letter no. 2010/TG-I/20/P/Tatkal dated 28.01.2011
(Commercial Circular No. 05 of 2011)**
- (c) Board's letter no. 2011/TG-I/10/e-ticket ID/Part-I dated 13.12.2011
(Commercial Circular No. 69 of 2011)**
- (d) Board's letter no. 2011/TG-I/20/p/Tatkal dated 29.12.2011
(Commercial Circular No. 72 of 2011)**

Vide letters referred to above, the proofs of identity to be accepted for undertaking journey on e-tickets and Tatkal tickets have been advised to all Zonal Railways.

2. The issue regarding accepting e-Aadhaar as one of the prescribed proofs of identity for undertaking journey in any reserved class was being raised at various foras. Accordingly, the matter was examined in consultation with Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI). UIDAI vide their letter no. 1404/8/2011-Logistics Vol. II dated 28.04.2017 (copy enclosed), has informed that as per Section 4(3) of Aadhaar Act, 2016, an Aadhaar number, in physical or electronic form subject to authentication and other conditions, as may be specified by regulations, may be accepted as proof of identity of the Aadhaar number holder for any purpose. Hence, downloaded Aadhaar (e-Aadhaar) is as legally valid proof of identity under Section 4(3) of the Aadhaar Act, 2016 and together with Regulation 15(1) of the Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) Regulations, 2016, as printed version of Aadhaar letter.

3. In view of the above, it has been decided to incorporate downloaded Aadhaar (e-Aadhaar) also as prescribed proof of identity at par with printed Aadhaar Card as mentioned in the list of prescribed proofs of identity which are valid for undertaking journey in any reserved class on Indian Railways as given below:-

- (i) Voter Photo Identity Card issued by Election Commission of India.
- (ii) Passport.
- (iii) PAN Card issued by Income Tax Department.

Cont...2/-

- (iv) Driving Licence issued by RTO.
- (v) Photo Identity Card having serial number issued by Central/ State Government.
- (vi) Student Identity Card with photograph issued by recognized School/College for their Students.
- (vii) Nationalised Bank Passbook with photograph.
- (viii) Credit Cards issued by Banks with laminated photograph.
- (ix) Printed unique identification card "Aadhaar" or downloaded Aadhaar (e-Aadhaar).
- (x) Ration card with photograph of passenger travelling.

4. Necessary instructions may be issued to all concerned & wide publicity may be given through all possible means for information of general public.

DA:As above



(Vikram Singh)
Director Passenger Marketing
Railway Board

Copy to:

1. CCM/PMs and CCM/PSs, all Zonal Railways.
2. EDV(T), EDFC, DF(C), PPS/FC, OSD/TC, F(C) & V(SS) branches of Railway Board.
3. MD/IRCTC, B 148, 11th Floor, Statesman House, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi - 110001
4. General Manager/PRS-I, CRIS, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi.
5. Director General, Professor/Training & Professor/Commercial Railway Staff College, Vadodara.
6. The Principals, Zonal Railway Training Institutes, Central Railway/Bhusawal, Eastern Railway/Bhuli-Dhanbad, Northern Railway/Chandausi, East Central railway/Muzaffarpur, NF Railway/Alipurduar, Southern Railway/Trichy, South Central Railway/Moula Ali, SE Railway/Sini, North Western Railway/Udaipur.
7. Director, Indian Railway Institute of Transport Management, Hardoi Bypass Road, Manak Nagar, Lucknow-2260011.
8. General Secretary, National Federation of Indian Railwaymen (NFIR), 3, Chelmsford Road, New Delhi.
9. General Secretary, All India Railwaymen Federation (AIRF), 4, State Entry Road, New Delhi.
10. Secretary General, Federation of Railway Officers Association (FROA), Room No. 370, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi.
11. Secretary General, Indian Railways Promotee Officers Federation (IRPOF), Room No. 268, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi.
12. Secretary General, All India RPF Association, Room No. 256-D, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi.
13. CTM, Metro Railway, Metro Rail Bhawan, 33/1, J.L. Nehru Road, Kolkata-71.

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F.No. 14014/8/2011-Logistics Vol.II
Government of India
Ministry of Electronics & IT
Unique Identification Authority of India
(Logistics Division)

9th Floor, Tower-I, Jeevan Bharti Building,
Connaught Circus, New Delhi-110001
Dated the 28th April, 2017

CIRCULAR

Subject: Validity of downloaded Aadhaar (e-Aadhaar) as Proof of identity – regarding.

The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) is a statutory body under Section 11 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and other Subsidies, Benefits & Services) Act, 2016 (Aadhaar Act, 2016) which came into force on 12.09.2016. The UIDAI is mandated to issue 12 digit Unique Identification number called Aadhaar to the residents based on demographic and biometric information submitted by them to the UIDAI during enrollment. Aadhaar number is communicated to the residents in physical form (Aadhaar letter) by post. UIDAI also provides facility to download Aadhaar in electronic form (Downloaded Aadhaar or e-Aadhaar) on its website (<https://uidai.gov.in/>).

2. UIDAI is receiving requests from various organisations/individual residents seeking clarification on validity of downloaded Aadhaar (e-Aadhaar) as various authorities are not accepting downloaded Aadhaar. This circular is being issued to clarify the validity of downloaded Aadhaar (e-Aadhaar).

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

“ An Aadhaar number, in physical or electronic form subject to authentication and other conditions, as may be specified by regulations, may be accepted as proof of identity of the Aadhaar number holder for any purpose ”.

[Explanation- For the purposes of this sub-section, the expression “electronic form” shall have the same meaning as assigned to it in clause (r) of sub-section (l) of section 2 of the Information Technology Act, 2000].

4. Further, as per Regulation 15 (1) of the Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) Regulations, 2016:


The Aadhaar number may be communicated to residents in physical form (including letters or cards) and/or electronic form.

5. It is informed that downloaded Aadhaar (e-Aadhaar) carries Name, Address, Gender, Photo and Date of Birth details of the Aadhaar holder in similar form as in Printed Aadhaar letter. The downloaded Aadhaar also contains date of Aadhaar generation and date of Aadhaar download. The downloaded Aadhaar (e-Aadhaar) is a digitally signed document by UIDAI as per IT Act, 2000 which provides for legal recognition of electronic records with digital signatures.

6. Downloaded Aadhaar (e-Aadhaar) is, therefore, as legally valid proof of identity under Section 4(3) of the Aadhaar Act, 2016 read together with Regulation 15 (1) of the Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) Regulations, 2016, as printed version of Aadhaar Letter.

7. It is, therefore, clarified that, **Downloaded Aadhaar (e-Aadhaar) is a valid and secure electronic document which should be treated at par with printed Aadhaar letter.** Ministries/Departments/State Governments/agencies accepting printed Aadhaar as proof of identity are hereby required to accept downloaded Aadhaar (e-Aadhaar) also as a proof of identity and not to discriminate it vis-a-vis printed Aadhaar.

8. This issues with the approval of CEO, UIDAI.


(B.M. Patnaik)

Deputy Director (Logistics)

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 DDGs of UIDAI HQ and ROs.
4. UIDAI Webmaster, Website.