**Services that have been linked with Aadhaar**

Aadhar card is a mandatory requirement at a number of places and for a number of applications. Some of these are mentioned below:

* Iron Ore or Limestone workers need Aadhar Card for availing house subsidy.
* This card is mandatory to avail supplementary nutrition program.
* Aadhaar is mandatory for all the farmers who want to take crop insurance benefits and for people who are eligible for subsidized food grains.
* Aadhaar is also mandatory to undertake training under Integrated Child Development Services in the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
* It has also been made mandatory to earn benefits under Grih Kalyan Kendra scheme.
* Aadhaar has also been made mandatory for financial support under the National Mission for Empowerment of Women.
* This is also mandatory for e-panchayat training benefits and for all the students who wish to avail central scholarships at college level.
* Soil Health Card scheme and Soil Health management scheme now requires Aadhaar as a mandatory document.
* If you wish to take supplementary meals at creches, you require Aadhar card mandatorily.
* All the maternity benefit program as well as Integrated Child Protection Scheme requires Aadhar card.
* For women candidates looking to avail vocational training, loans and other schemes, Aadhaar has been made mandatory.
* Aadhaar is also mandatory for disabled children between the age group 6-14 who are eligible for benefits under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.
* [Linking Aadhaar with bank accounts](https://www.paisabazaar.com/aadhar-card/link-aadhaar-card-to-bank-account/), Money can be transferred using aadhar number.
* Victim of the Bhopal Gas Tragedy need Aadhar card to apply for compensation from the government.
* The most recent announcement was of the Aadhar card being made mandatory for salaried professional to file Income Tax return.
* Every citizen who wants to apply for a fresh PAN card now must hold a valid Aadhar card as a pre-requisite.

**Privacy Concerns with Aadhaar**

The debate engendered by the Aadhaar project has propelled India from being a predominantly pre-privacy society to one in which privacy protection in digital databases has emerged as a major national concern. The welcome and scholarly Supreme Court judgment has upheld privacy as a fundamental right, and informational self-determination and the autonomy of an individual in controlling usage of personal data have emerged as central themes across the judgment. The main privacy concerns with Aadhaar are:

* **Identity theft.** Aadhaar is vulnerable to illegal harvesting of biometrics and identity frauds because biometrics are not secret information.[4](https://cacm.acm.org/magazines/2019/11/240384-privacy-concerns-with-aadhaar/fulltext#R4),[11](https://cacm.acm.org/magazines/2019/11/240384-privacy-concerns-with-aadhaar/fulltext#R11) Moreover, possible leakage of biometric and demographic data, either from the central Aadhaar repository or from a point-of-sale or an enrollment device, adds to the risk.
* *I***dentification without consent using Aadhaar data.** There may be unauthorized use of biometrics to identify people illegally. Such violations may include identifying people by inappropriate matching of fingerprint or iris scans, or facial photographs stored in the Aadhaar database, or using the demographic data to identify people without their consent and beyond legal provisions.
* **Correlation of identities across domains***.* It may become possible to track an individual's activities across multiple domains of service using their global Aadhaar IDs, which are valid across these domains. This would lead to identification without consent.
* **Illegal tracking of individuals***.* Individuals may be tracked or put under surveillance without proper authorization or legal sanction using the authentication and identification records and trails in the Aadhaar database, or in one or more authentication-requesting-agencies' databases. Such records may reveal information on location, time, and context of authentication and the services availed.

**Steps Taken by the Government**

The Supreme Court has upheld the constitutional validity of Aadhaar albeit with some riders. The five-judge constitution bench, led by Chief Justice Dipak Misra, struck down Section 57 of the Aadhaar Act which allowed not only the government but also any "body corporate or person" or private entity to demand Aadhaar.

Aadhaar will no longer be required for availing services such as:

**Bank Account:** The Supreme Court today ruled that Aadhaar is not needed for opening a bank account. Banks have been chasing customers and asking them to update Aadhaar numbers with their bank accounts. However, following today's verdict, banks will not ask you to link your Aadhaar to your account.

**SIM card:** With SC striking down Section 57 of the Aadhaar Act, private companies can no longer ask for your Aadhaar. Telecom operators were earlier asked by Department of Telecommunications (DoT) to conduct Aadhaar-based verification of mobile phone connections.

**Appearing for competitive examinations and school admissions:** In a big relief to students, the Supreme Court on Wednesday ruled that it is not mandatory to provide Aadhaar to register or appear for National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET), University Grants Commission (UGC) and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) exams.

Here's what needs to be linked with Aadhaar:

**PAN card:** Linking of Aadhaar with PAN card continues to be mandatory under section 139AA of the Income Tax Act. Tax evaders used to create multiple PAN cards in order to avoid taxes. The government had on various occasions extended the deadline of linking PAN with Aadhaar

**Filing income tax returns (ITR):** As Aadhaar-PAN linking continues to be necessary, you'll need the same for filing income tax returns.

**Welfare schemes:** Aadhaar continues to be mandatory for availing benefits under various government-run social welfare schemes and subsidies. Justice Bhushan said the Central government had given sufficient reasons to uphold Section 7 of Aadhaar Act, which deals with grant of subsidies and welfare benefits.