GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA GENERAL ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT (B) PRESS RELEASE

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No.GAB-163/2016/808. Ensuring Trust in Aadhaar: Offline Verification Now Easier and More Secure with UIDAI's Secure QR Code

The General Administration Department, Government of Meghalaya, wishes to bring to the attention of all concerned departments and the general public an important feature provided by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) — the Aadhaar QR Scanner App, which allows for offline verification of Aadhaar.

This is particularly important in light of increasing instances of Aadhaar misuse, where fake or visually manipulated Aadhaar cards have been used as proof of identity. To combat such fraud, UIDAI has embedded a **Secure QR Code** in every Aadhaar letter, PVC card, and downloaded e-Aadhaar. This code is digitally signed and contains key demographic information and a photograph of the Aadhaar holder.

Unlike regular QR codes, the Secure QR Code cannot be tampered with or altered without invalidating the digital signature, making it a reliable tool for offline authentication.

Key Features of the Secure QR Code:

- · Tamper-proof and digitally signed by UIDAI
- Encrypted and readable only using UIDAI-approved scanners or the official Aadhaar QR Code Scanner App
- Functions entirely offline no internet or web redirection required
- · Instantly detects mismatches or fake Aadhaar documents

How to Verify Aadhaar Using the Secure QR Code:

- 1. Download the Aadhaar QR Scanner App from the Play Store or App Store
- 2. Open the app → Select "Aadhaar QR Scanner" → Scan the QR code on the Aadhaar document
- 3. The verified details such as name, date of birth, and photograph will be displayed instantly

This tool is ideal for use in remote areas with limited connectivity, as it functions without an internet connection.

Who Should Use This Feature?

- Government departments and field-level staff for KYC and document verification
- · Banks, NBFCs, insurance companies, and telecom service providers
- Employers and landlords for tenant or employee verification, Hotels, Guest house.
- · Notaries, advocates, and document verifiers
- General public for self-verification of Aadhaar authenticity

In Case of Suspected Manipulated Aadhaar:

- · Do not accept the document if printed details do not match the QR-scanned details
- Report such incidents to UIDAI via help@uidai.gov.in or call 1947
- · Notify the Deputy Commissioner's Office if fraud is suspected

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The General Administration Department urges all offices, agencies, and citizens to adopt the Aadhaar QR code verification process and remain vigilant against the use of fraudulent documents.

For further information, please refer to UIDAI's "Frequently Asked Questions on Aadhaar Secure QR Code" available at https://gad.meghalaya.gov.in or visit www.uidai.gov.in or the Deputy Commissioners offices.

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