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TODAY'S ANALYSIS

(07 March 2025)

TOPICS TO BE COVERED

- LAUNCH OF NEW AADHAR GOVERNANCE PORTAL
- ECONOMIC SURVEY: (CHAPTER 5) INDIA'S MEDIUM TERM
ECONOMIC OUTLOOK
- MCQs

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LAUNCH OF NEW AADHAR GOVERNANCE PORTAL

Introduction of the Aadhaar Governance Portal:

The **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)** has launched a new **Aadhaar Governance Portal** (<http://swik.meity.gov.in>) to streamline the process of approval for Aadhaar authentication requests.

Uidai New Portal Launch

Government Launch Aadhar Good Governance Portal

Login Id
Password

Govt./Pvt. Agency Auth. Process

Aadhaar Good Governance Portal

This Portal is a digital platform to facilitate the Ministries / Departments of Central Government and State Governments for online submission of proposals under Aadhaar Authentication for Good Governance (Social Welfare, Innovation, Knowledge) Rules, 2020. These SWIK Rules were introduced as a facilitating provision to section 4(4)(b)(ii) of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016.

User Id
Enter user id

Password
Enter Password

captcha d g u x h t

Enter captcha code

Login Registration

Forgot Your Password?

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OBJECTIVES

- The portal aims to **simplify governance processes** and **enhance citizen-centric services** by making Aadhaar authentication more efficient.
- It is part of ongoing efforts to **improve service delivery** and **ease of living** for citizens.

Legal Framework:

- The portal follows the recent amendments to the **Aadhaar Authentication for Good Governance (Social Welfare, Innovation, Knowledge) Rules, 2025**, under the **Aadhaar Act of 2016**.
- These amendments are intended to support **good governance** and enhance the delivery of welfare services and benefits.
- **Benefits of the Portal:**
 - The platform will **expedite** the inclusion of new use cases in governance, **improving access to essential services for citizens**.
 - It is designed to simplify the process for **both government and private entities** seeking Aadhaar authentication approval.

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- **Impact on Service Delivery:**

- The portal is expected to make services in various sectors, such as **healthcare, education, e-commerce, and hospitality**, more accessible and efficient.
- It will also facilitate **Aadhaar-based services** like **staff attendance, customer onboarding, and e-KYC verification**.

- **Features of the Portal:**

- The portal offers a **step-by-step guide** to help entities apply for Aadhaar authentication approval and onboard smoothly.
- **Face authentication** may also be integrated into **customer-facing apps**, enabling easy, anytime authentication.

WHAT IS AADHAR?

- Aadhaar is a **12-digit random number** issued by the **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)**.
- It is provided to **residents of India** after undergoing a verification process set by the UIDAI.

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- **Eligibility and Enrollment:**

- Any **resident of India**, irrespective of age or gender, can voluntarily **enrol for Aadhaar**.
- The **enrollment process is free** and requires minimal demographic and biometric information.
- An individual needs to enrol only **once**.
- The uniqueness of the Aadhaar is ensured through **demographic and biometric de-duplication**, meaning only one Aadhaar number will be generated per person

- **Biometric Information Required:**

- **Ten fingerprints, Two iris scans, and a facial photograph.**

- **Aadhaar Features:**

- Aadhaar is **verifiable online** in a **cost-effective** manner.
- The number is **unique** and **robust** enough to eliminate duplicates and fake identities.
- It serves as a basis for rolling out several **government welfare schemes** and programs, thus promoting **transparency** and **good governance**.

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- Aadhaar is a **proof of identity** but does not confer rights such as **citizenship** or **domicile**.
- **Aadhaar and Governance:**
 - Aadhaar acts as a **strategic policy tool** for **social and financial inclusion**, **public sector delivery reforms**, and **fiscal management**.
 - It enhances **convenience** and supports **people-centric governance**.
 - The system facilitates **financial inclusion** for **underprivileged sections** and promotes **distributive justice and equality**.
- **Global Recognition:**
 - The Aadhaar program is **the largest biometric-based identification system** globally.
 - It plays a vital role in the **Digital India** initiative, providing every resident with a **unique identity**.
- **Impact on Service Delivery:**
 - Aadhaar serves as a **permanent financial address**, enabling the **direct delivery of subsidies, benefits, and services** to residents using just the Aadhaar number.

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- It plays a significant role in promoting **efficiency** in governance and ensuring **effective service delivery**.

ABOUT UIDAI

- **UIDAI (Unique Identification Authority of India)** is a statutory authority established under the **Aadhaar Act, 2016**.
- It was created on **12th July 2016** by the **Government of India**, under the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)**.
- The **Aadhaar Act, 2016** was later amended by the **Aadhaar and Other Laws (Amendment) Act, 2019**, effective from **25th July 2019**.

Objectives of UIDAI:

- UIDAI's primary objective is to issue **Unique Identification Numbers (UIDs)**, known as **Aadhaar**, to all residents of India.
- The Aadhaar number must be:
 - **Robust** enough to eliminate **duplicate and fake identities**.
 - **Verifiable** and **authenticable** in an easy, cost-effective way.

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Aadhaar Numbers Issued:

- As of **29th September 2023**, UIDAI has issued **138.08 crore Aadhaar numbers** to residents across India.

Responsibilities of UIDAI:

- **Aadhaar enrolment and authentication:** Managing all stages of the Aadhaar lifecycle, including issuing Aadhaar numbers and performing authentication.
- **Policy and system development:** Developing policies, procedures, and systems to manage Aadhaar issuance.
- **Security:** Ensuring the security of identity information and authentication records of individuals.

Historical Background:

- **March 3, 2006:** The project '**Unique Identification for BPL Families**' was approved by the **Department of Information Technology**.
- **July 3, 2006:** A **Processes Committee** was formed to design the process for creating the Unique Identification database.

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- **November 26, 2006:** The **Strategic Vision Document** for Unique Identification of residents was prepared.
- **December 4, 2006:** The **Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM)** was set up to collate data for the **National Population Register** and the **Unique Identification Number project**.

Evolution of UIDAI:

- Before becoming a statutory authority, UIDAI functioned as an **attached office** of the **Planning Commission** (now **NITI Aayog**) from **28th January 2009**.
- The **first Aadhaar number** was issued on **29th September 2010** to a resident in **Nandurbar, Maharashtra**.
- On **12th September 2015**, the Government revised the **Allocation of Business Rules** to place UIDAI under the **Department of Electronics & Information Technology (DeitY)**.

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ECONOMIC SURVEY-CHAPTER 5: INDIA'S MEDIUM TERM ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

The Elephant and the Dragon in the Room

Global Economic Shifts:

- **Trade Restrictions:** Between **2020** and **2024**, over **24,000** new trade and investment **restrictions** have been introduced globally, marking a fundamental shift in global economic engagement.
- **Impact:** These shifts are reflected in **slower global trade growth** and signs of secular stagnation in the global economy, impacting long-term economic prospects.

Re-evaluating Long-held Economic Practices:

- **China's Role:** China has become a dominant force in global manufacturing and energy transition, leveraging its competitiveness and economic policies.
- **Uncertainty:** The global economy is at a crossroads where **traditional economic principles are being reconsidered and losing relevance**. Countries are now operating in a new environment, where uncertainty about the future rules prevails.

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China's Dominance in Manufacturing and Energy Transition:

- **Manufacturing:** In **2000**, China accounted for just **6%** of global industrial production. By **2030**, it is expected to account for **45%**, outpacing the US and its allies in manufacturing.
- **Strategic Advantage:** China controls key resources essential for global supply chains, giving it a significant strategic advantage.
- **Impact:** China's rise has disrupted economies like Germany and Japan, especially in the auto market, and dominates the global distribution of critical minerals and other resources, creating potential future dependencies.

RESET OF GLOBAL MANUFACTURING PRACTICES

- **Outsourcing:** The outsourcing of manufacturing to China during the globalization era is set to undergo a reset.
- **Turning Point:** China's resurgence marks a significant turning point in global economic practices, as countries re-evaluate their manufacturing strategies and supply chain dependencies.

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CLIMATE TRANSITION, CHINA & GLOBAL GEOPOLITICS

Climate as a Global Public Good:

- **Impact:** Climate change is a global public good that affects everyone, with consequences that are still being understood. For instance, a **1°C** warming can reduce global GDP by **12%**.
- **Correlation:** There is a strong correlation between global temperature and extreme climatic events, highlighting the urgent need for climate action.

Global Greenhouse Gas Emissions:

- **Major Emitters:** China, the US, the EU, and other G7 economies produce more than **50%** of global greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Net-Zero Targets:** These economies have set **2050** targets to reach net-zero emissions, but trade conflicts between these economies could significantly disrupt the green energy transition, imposing high costs on the global economy.

INDIA'S CLIMATE ACTION

- **Panchamrit:** India has committed to climate action through the Panchamrit (five nectar elements), which will impact how India meets its energy requirements and shift its energy mix.

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- **Renewable Energy:** By **2030**, the share of renewable energy (especially solar and wind) in India's installed capacity is expected to increase, while coal and lignite will decrease.

CHINA'S ROLE IN ENERGY TRANSITION

- **Solar PV:** China dominates the solar photovoltaic (PV) industry, accounting for **80%** of the manufacturing stages, more than double its share of global PV demand.
- **Wind Energy:** **60%** of the world's wind installed capacity comes from China.
- **Battery Manufacturing:** China holds **80%** of global battery manufacturing capacity, a critical component for the energy transition.
- **Investment:** In **2022**, China allocated **USD 546 billion** for investments in solar, wind energy, electric vehicles, and battery technologies, surpassing the investments made by the US and EU.

INDIA'S STRATEGY FOR E MOBILITY

- **Investment:** India is investing in metro rail networks to reduce dependence on overseas supply chains for e-mobility.

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- **Public Transport:** Currently, only **37%** of India's urban population has easy access to public transportation. To meet Net Zero goals, India must focus on developing integrated transport systems that connect buses, metro rails, and other modes of transit.
- **Benefits:** Investing in efficient and accessible public transport will promote clean mobility, reduce traffic congestion, and support a more resilient and equitable energy transition.

INDIA'S RENEWABLE ENERGY MANUFACTURING EFFORTS

- **PLI Scheme:** India is making progress in promoting renewable energy and domestic manufacturing of renewable energy equipment through the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme.
- **Dependence:** Currently, India sources **75%** of lithium-ion batteries from China and has negligible production capacity for critical components like polysilicon, ingots, and wafers.
- **Challenge:** If trade disruptions occur between blocs regarding critical minerals, investment in renewable energy and electric vehicles could be **30%** lower by **2030** compared to a non-fragmented world, hindering the transition and affecting growth opportunities.

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IMPLICATIONS FOR INDIA'S GROWTH PROSPECTS

Vision for Viksit Bharat @2047:

- **Goal:** India aims to become a developed nation by **2047**, the centenary of its independence.
- **Growth Rate:** To achieve this, India needs to maintain a sustained growth rate of **8%** per year for at least a decade.
- **Investment Rate:** The investment rate needs to rise from **31%** of GDP to **35%** to support this growth.
- **Key Areas:** Focus areas include manufacturing, emerging technologies like AI, robotics, and biotechnology, as well as creating **78.5 lakh** new non-farm jobs annually until **2030**.
- **Education and Infrastructure:** Achieving **100%** literacy, improving education quality, and developing future-ready infrastructure at scale will also be essential.

POLICY ACTIONS TO SUPPORT GROWTH

- **Digitization:** India has taken steps toward digitization, decriminalization, and divestment of functions to streamline processes and reduce regulatory burdens.

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- **PAN 2.0:** The PAN 2.0 project aims to streamline paperless processes and unify digital systems.
- **Jan Vishwas Act 2023:** This act decriminalized provisions across central acts to reduce unnecessary regulations.
- **Regulatory Modernization:** Further regulatory modernization is needed to maintain flexibility as the economy grows, addressing new constraints and challenges.

FOCUS ON MEDIUM TERM STRUCTURAL REFORMS

- **Manufacturing:** Upgrading capacity and technological know-how of manufacturers is crucial.
- **Human Resources:** Improving human resource availability and addressing resource bottlenecks to accelerate capital formation.
- **Agriculture:** Unlocking the potential of the agriculture sector by addressing challenges and promoting growth.
- **Green Capital:** Leveraging global green capital for funding the green transition.
- **Education and Employment:** Bridging the education-employment gap and enhancing state capabilities to support growth.

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MCQs

1. Consider the following use cases of the New Aadhar Governance Portal and mark the correct one:

1. Registering New Users.
2. Improving access to essential services for citizens.

- (A) Only 1
(B) Only 2
(C) Both 1 & 2
(D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans. (B)

2. Which of the following can be the features of Aadhar?

1. It gives unique identity to every citizen of India.
2. Biometric verification is mandatory.
3. It is a proof of citizenship.

- (A) Only 1 & 3
(B) Only 2
(C) Only 1 & 2
(D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans. (C)

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3. The UIDAI (Unique Identification Authority of India) is under the authority of:

- (A) Ministry of Personnel
- (B) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (C) NITI Aayog
- (D) Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MEITY)

Ans. (D)

4. A term Panchamrit, often seen in news relates to which of the following?

- (A) India's mix of 5 biofuels to reduce carbon emissions
- (B) India's climate goals submitted in 2015
- (C) India's climate goals submitted in 2021
- (D) None of the above

Ans. (C)

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