

## **Aadhaar Governance Award (AGA)**

### **Preamble**

The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) is mandated to issue unique numbers (Aadhaar numbers) to every resident in the country. The UIDAI has begun issuing Aadhaar numbers in partnership with a large number of Registrars across the country. The implementation of the project has gained momentum across the country and a large number of residents will be obtaining the Aadhaar number in the coming months.

One of the mandates of the UIDAI is to define the usage and applicability of the Aadhaar number for delivery of various services. The Aadhaar number which is based on biometrics and can be authenticated has the potential to be utilized in a variety of social sector schemes in education, health, PDS, social welfare not only for improving delivery of service to the intended beneficiary but also to make the administration of the scheme more transparent and efficient.

It is in the context of the potential of the use of the Aadhaar number that the UIDAI is instituting the Aadhaar Governance Award (AGA).

### **Objective of the Aadhaar Governance Award (AGA)**

The Aadhaar Governance Award (AGA) is to acknowledge, recognize and reward the extraordinary and innovative work done by District Collectors in using the Aadhaar number to improve service delivery in their respective districts for more transparent, efficient and effective governance. The UIDAI believes that a

number of innovative and exemplary usages of the Aadhaar number would be generated from the officials working at the cutting edge of administration.

### **Criteria for selection**

All District Collectors of the country are eligible to apply as per the process detailed in the sections below. The main criteria, inter alia, for selection will be as follows:

1. The Aadhaar number should be used in an innovative way to improve delivery of a service or in making the implementation of a particular scheme/service more transparent/efficient. Essentially, the Aadhaar identity infrastructure platform must be utilized in the application that seeks to improve service delivery.
2. The project for which the award is sought must be implemented for a period of at least 6 months. It should not be only a proposal or idea.
3. The project must be scalable, sustainable and capable of being horizontally transferred to other sectors.
4. It should result in enhancement of productivity, improvement in accountability, efficiency and service delivery, ease of transaction and end user convenience.
5. It should offer permanent improvements to the service delivery mechanism.

## **How to Apply**

The UIDAI will receive nominations from districts through the Unique Identification Implementation Committee (UIDIC) headed by the Chief Secretary which has been constituted in the States.

District Collectors who have done work in implementing the Aadhaar number in improving service delivery would have to document their work in the form of a project report and submit it to the UIDIC. The project report must contain details of the pre-Aadhaar and post-Aadhaar delivery mechanism. It must outline the salient features of the improvement and the intended benefits. The project report must contain details, inter alia, of the project's coverage, scope of work, user convenience, efficiency enhancement, improvement in accountability and transparency, innovative aspects and cost effectiveness. The proposals could also be accompanied by video/pictures of the process improvements.

The UIDIC would nominate District Collectors and send their proposals to the UIDAI for selection for the award. There is no limit on the number of proposals that can be sent by the UIDIC to the UIDAI. However, there will only be one nomination from each district.

## **Process for Selection**

The UIDAI would set up an Expert Evaluation Committee comprising of eminent people, inter alia, in the field of public administration, academics, technology to evaluate the proposals that have been received by the UIDAI. The shortlisted nominees would have to make detailed presentations of their

work. The evaluation could also involve field visits to see the implementation of the work. The Expert Evaluation Committee would give its recommendations to the UIDAI.

### **Time frame**

The nominations from the UIDIC to the UIDAI must be received by the 15<sup>th</sup> of January, 2012. The Award will be announced by the UIDAI in February 2012. The Award ceremony will be held in February/March 2012.

### **Details of the Award**

The AGA is an annual award. The winning nomination will receive a cash prize of Rs.3 lakhs, followed by Rs.2 lakhs for the second place and Rs.1 lakh for the third place. The cash received from the award will go directly to the respective District Collector's office.

The District Collectors would be given a medal and citation for the honour.