

NISANI: National Identity Cards Scheme

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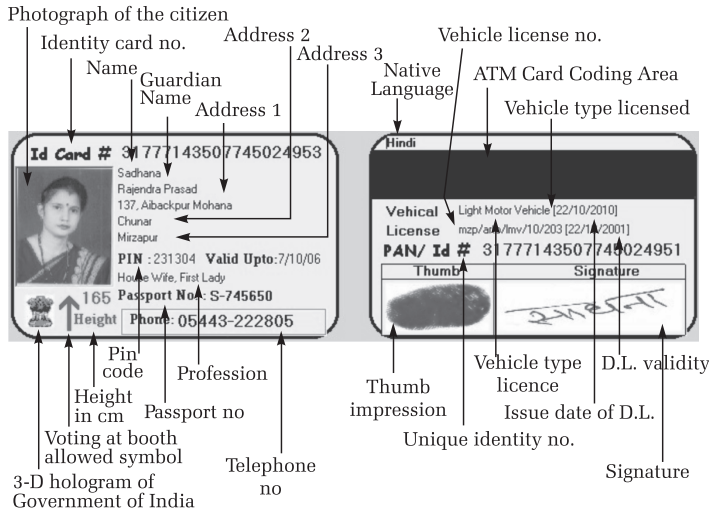
ABSTRACT

Identity is an integral part of humanity. In fact, all living beings struggle to assert their unique identity in the universe. It may be in the form of knowledge, power, wealth, uses or misuses. Knowledge of an individual's identity is a powerful tool – a country's economic and social status can be gauged by the knowledge of its people's status. Therefore, governments are eager to keep records of their citizens in an easy and quick-access format. The National Identity Cards Scheme is the best method to store key information about citizens. Computerisation of all data under the National Identity Card (NIC) Scheme is one solution to make information available anywhere, anytime to authorised personnel.

The NISANI card is a multi-purpose card which would replace 20 types of popular cards like citizenship, succession, ATM cum debit, electoral roll, blood group, PAN, religion, caste, date of birth, date of death, education, eye donor, disability, driving license, gender, own home, domicile, identity, death and birth registration. A NISANI card bears the photo of the owner, name, complete address, guardian's name (if any), height, passport no., telephone no., 3-D hologram of GOI, expiry date, profession, PIN no. and a unique 20-digit code. The card also bears the previous no. (if any), driving license, thumb impression, signature and ATM cum debit on the reverse. All information is compressed into 20 digits. This is a real e-governance challenge which if implementable, will facilitate the Election Commission of India, Census Directorate of India, Registrar General of India, Health Ministry of India, Ministry of Home, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Finance, District Collector, Police Department, Area Development Authority, Eye Bank, Blood Bank, Food Ministry and the citizens of India.

Objectives

The NISANI (national identification scheme as numbers individually) ID card will provide every person legally resident in this country, including foreign nationals, with an easy and secure way of demonstrating their right to be here and of asserting their place in the community. It will be linked to the person to whom it is issued by unique identifiers along with more traditional security checks, in such a way that is virtually impossible to obtain an ID card in multiple identities. The key information printed on the national identity card (NISANI) including the 20-digit NISANI code are as follows.



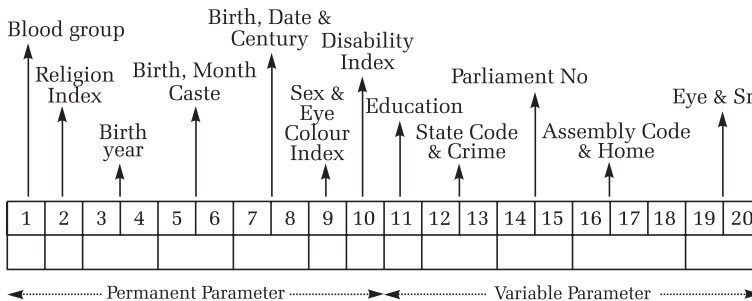
A death registration card also bears the same information printed above – except the expiry date of the card, thumb impression and signature. In place of the thumb impression and signature, it has the mother’s name, the guardian NISANI number and how he/she is related to the person.

There are many difficulties in designing and developing a National Identification Scheme for a country like India, where the population figure is very large and the economy poor. Creating a National ID for each and every citizen of India, even at a cost of one rupee per card, will make a major difference in the National Fund. Therefore, it would not be possible to invest in a costly ID card and card reader/decoder. Secondly, the electric power supply in India is very poor except at the national/state capitals – sometimes just 10–12 hours in a whole day. Therefore, use of very power-dependant equipments is not feasible.

The main feature of the software for the NISANI card is its 20-digit code which contains more than twenty unique information based on the physical and geographical characteristics of the individual.

National Identification Card Scheme

The parameters included in the identification card are shown below:



Under each parameter, the different characteristics are coded as below:

1. Blood group	2. Religion index	3 & 4 Birth year	5 & 6 Birth month & Caste
0. Not visible on the card (Dead) 1. A+ 2. A- 3. B+ 4. B- 5. AB+ 6. AB- 7. O+ 8. O- 9. HIV+	1. Hindu 2. Muslim 3. Sikkha 4. Christian 5. Jain 6. Parasi 7. Buddha 8. Others 9. No religion	These two digits are reserved for the year of birth Year. (00 to 99)	01 to 12 Month code +00 for Forward caste 21 to 32 Month code +20 for Backward caste 41 to 52 Month code +40 for Other backward caste 61 to 72 Month code +60 for Scheduled caste 81 to 92 Month code +80 for Scheduled tribe/ caste
7 & 8 Birth & century	Sex & eye colour	10. Disability	11. Education
01 to 31 Birth date + 00 for Century 2000 33 to 63 Birth date + 32 for Century 1900 65 to 95 Birth date + 64 for Century 1800	0. Sex "Male" Eye "Black" 1. Sex "Male" Eye "Brown" 2. Sex "Male" Eye "Blue" 3. Sex "Male" Eye "Green" 4. Sex "Male" Eye "Red Irides" 5. Sex "Female" Eye "Black" 6. Sex "Female" Eye "Brown" 7. Sex "Female" Eye "Blue" 8. Sex "Female" Eye "Green" 9. Sex "Female" Eye "Red Irides"	0. Normal. 1. Partially blind 2. Partially deaf & dumb 3. Partially handicapped 4. Partially retarded 5. Totally blind 6. Totally deaf & dumb 7. Totally handicapped 8. Mentally retarded 9. Any other disability	1. Illiterate 2. Literate 3. Primary school 4. Junior high school 5. High school 6. Intermediate 7. Bachelor degree 8. Master degree 9. Doctorate and above

12 & 13 State & jailed by court	14 & 15 Parliament number	16 & 17 & 18 Assembly & home	19 & 20 Serial & eye donation
01 to 28 State name 41 to 47 Union territory + 00 for Hon- ourable	These two digits are reserved for parliamentary constituency number From “01” to “90”.	001 to 450 As- sembly constitu- ency +000 for Family Member	01 to 50 Serial number +00 for eye not donated
51 to 78 State name 91 to 97 Union territory +50 for crimi- nal	“99” for For- eigner	501 to 950 As- sembly constitu- ency +500 for Tenants in house “999” for For- eigner	51 to 99 Serial number +50 for eye donated

Who will benefit from the ID cards?

Election Commission of India: Useful to determine their exact voter electoral roll – assembly-wise, parliament-wise and state-wise. Candidate verification becomes easy. Later on Voting may be done through telephone with the help of IVRS, using the NISANI number and PIN code.

Census Directorate of India: For the current population of India under different categories – male, female, age, religion, caste, sub-caste, literacy, home, profession etc.

Registrar (Death/Birth): This office will be able to obtain the data of each citizen of India with many details like date of birth, mother’s name, guardian’s name, relation with guardian, place of birth, date of death, birth rate, death rate, infant death etc religion- and caste-wise.

Health Ministry of India: This ministry will be able to determine the citizen health status like whether s/he is HIV+, blind, physically disabled, deaf and dumb, mentally retarded, polio affected (partially or fully) etc age-wise and even if s/he is willing to donate an eye after death (DEAD). This comes handy in the case of an unclaimed dead body, when the eye can be saved without any delay.

Ministry of Home: This ministry is able to determine the exact identity of a person with their family history. Religion and caste-wise population development details and data on the homeless in any particular area of the country can be generated from the data base of the ID card scheme.

Ministry of Finance: Issuing of PAN cards may be abolished as all the required information is available in the NISANI card itself. Departments may be able to determine the latest change in address and financial status more

rapidly and frequently as it is also used as an ATM card.

Education Department: This department can determine the literary status of a citizen like illiterate, literate, primary school, junior high school, high school, intermediate, graduation, master, doctorate and above level. This will help to plan schemes for uplifting illiterates and different education level people in any particular area.

Police Department: A person under suspicion can be checked out using his/her NISANI card. If the person purports to details not identical to the details given in the card, he may be arrested for further inquiry and kept in custody until it is proved that s/he is an Indian national citizen. Voice tag of the individual has also been added in the data base for extra verification by IVRS.

Other Departments: The card is also helpful for the Area Development to determine the requirement of houses for a particular category of people. The Eye Bank will be able to know the details of eye donors in local areas, while the Blood Bank will have the details of availability of people with a certain blood group type in the nearby region.

District Collector: The District Collector office will be able to issue certificates like the Succession Certificate, Religion & Caste Certificate, Domicile Certificate and Mother/Guardian Certificate without delay.

Citizen of India: Their unique identity number can be considered as an internal passport. They will not need to carry twenty different type of card/certificates.

Implementation of NISANI Card

Birth registration: All births will be reported by the medical department of the district through the field staff (Nurse/ANM) posted at the village/ward level or at the primary health centre.

Death registration: All deaths will be reported by the police department of the district through their field staff (constable) posted at the village/ward or thana/chauki area.

New person registration: All new persons appearing in the area will be reported by the District Collector Office of the district by their field staff (land revenue inspector/lekhpal) posted at the village/ward level

The overall work will be carried out at the District Collector Office by the NISANI officer. After receiving all the information for a new ID card, the NISANI officer for photography and voice recording will approach the concerned person, verify and collect some more information, take a photograph and record their voice.

Within a week, the NISANI officer will get the ID card printed and handover the card to the police department who will get the thumb impression

and signature of the concerned person. The card will then be sent back to the NISANI officer to enable it in the master data base of the main computer and then returned to the concerned person through the field staff of the medical department. These are some rules for the NISANI card.

1. The first ID card number must be same as the ID number for an Indian citizen.
2. The ID no. must contain '99999' for digit location 14 to 18 for a citizen who is not an Indian.
3. Mother/Guardian ID no. must be "11111111111111111111" for those who believe in appointing a god father/mother for the child.
4. Mother/Guardian ID no. must be "22222222222222222222" for those who have no knowledge about their mother/guardian.
5. Mother/Guardian ID no. must be "33333333333333333333" for those whose mother/guardian ID is known but he/she is not an Indian citizen.
6. Mother/Guardian ID no. must be "00000000000000000000" for those whose mother/guardian ID is known but he/she does not want to associate with them.
7. A record can be modified until the card is printed, after which the record is practically permanent.
8. The printed card can be enabled in the master data base only by the user admin.
9. In case of lost/theft/damage of the card, a new card will be reprinted only when the current card is disabled in the master data base.

The whole process should be ideally completed within a month. The key departments involved are the District Collector Office, Chief Medical Office, Superintendent of Police Office.

Conclusion

It is widely acknowledged that an electronic national databank has the potential to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of government administration. Creating an identity card based national ID system might be a first step towards this objective.

The national identity card system provides a possible solution to have any information directory about the citizen and the social status of the country. NISANI provides this at a relatively low cost making it easily implementable across the country.