DIGILOCKER

In a nutshell: : Providing citizens a secure platform to access all documents from a public cloud.

Nodal agency: National e-Governance Division (NeGD), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)

As a key initiative under Government of India's flagship Digital India programme, DigiLocker is targeted at the idea of paperless governance. It is a platform for issuance and verification of documents and certificates in a digital way, thus eliminating the use of physical documents. It currently has more than 102 million registered users, with more than 5 billion legitimate documents issued.

Why DigiLocker?
- A citizen need not visit a counter to avail a document.
- Easier to validate the authenticity of documents as they are issued directly by the registered issuers.
- Less turnaround in service delivery, along with reduced costs.

Outcome

Some important areas where DigiLocker has been used are as follows:

1. **Education**

   - The Ministry of Education has created the National Academic Depository platform to be implemented as a permanent scheme through DigiLocker.

   - Over 41 million authentic digital educational certificates from academic institutions, including 28 State & UT educational boards, the Central Boards of Education and 980 higher education institutions have been on-boarded.

   - Data is being verified by foreign universities via the DigiLocker repository and the eSanad (MEA system) of academic publications.

2. **Traffic and road transport**

   - Drivers in India use the DigiLocker smartphone app to display their driving license and vehicle registration certificate.

   - Sixteen States have issued transportation notifications allowing enforcement officers to accept digital driving licenses and registration certificates.

3. **Railways and airports**

   • Pan-India acceptance of DigiLocker produced ID for passenger verification

4. **Kerala Flood Rehabilitation**

   • Following the floods in Kerala, the government has accelerated the integration of eight ministries with DigiLocker, allowing residents to identify and claim crucial documents.

5. **Health**

   • For the issue of digital health cards, the National Health Authority has partnered with DigiLocker.

   • CoWIN application integration for issuing COVID Vaccine Certificates to citizens.

Way forward

Going ahead, DigiLocker has a target of 5 crore citizen accounts and 100 crore government issued documents. To expedite the adoption of the DigiLocker system, MeitY has notified the Information Technology (Preservation & Retention of Information by Intermediaries Providing Digital Locker Facilities) Rules, 2016.

DigiLocker is a one-of-a-kind solution, with few global counterparts. The amount of legitimate data available through this service may already make it one of the world's largest providers of such data.

Issuing Lok Adalat Certificate in Kerala using DigiLocker.

Digital India Pavilion at India International Trade Fair showcasing features of DigiLocker