To,

The Principal

[School Name]

[School Address]

Date: []

**Subject: Concern Regarding mandatory creation of APAAR ID despite clarification by Ministry of Education that enrolment is Voluntary**

Respected Ma’am/Sir,

I am writing this letter to express my concerns regarding the recent communication from the school mandating students and parents to enroll for an Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry (APAAR ID). This communication has come in complete disregard of the voluntary nature of APAAR ID as affirmed by the Ministry of Education.[[1]](#footnote-0)

Numerous instances have emerged about the forceful signing of the consent form attached to the APAAR ID form[[2]](#footnote-1) by the parents and students[[3]](#footnote-2) to enrol under the APAAR ID. This practice also raises serious apprehensions about the potential misuse of childrens’ data.[[4]](#footnote-3) Our concerns about linking APAAR ID with Aadhaar are further amplified in light of several reported Aadhaar data breaches[[5]](#footnote-4).

The Ministry of Education has clarified that creating an APAAR ID is voluntary in nature in its reply dated 04.12.2024 in Parliament in response to a question on APAAR ID[[6]](#footnote-5). Further, as per the RTI application dated 16.12.2024 filed by SFLC.in on the use of APAAR ID by the Ministry of Education, the Ministry has clarified that APAAR ID is not mandatory for any child and no adverse consequences will arise for students who do not provide consent for APAAR ID.[[7]](#footnote-6)

Further, the Circular dated 05/09/2018[[8]](#footnote-7) issued by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) states that *“it must be ensured that no children are deprived/denied of their* ***due benefits or rights for want of Aadhaar****.”* The Supreme Court in **Justice** **K.S. Puttaswamy and Anr. vs. Union of India**[[9]](#footnote-8) held that no child should be denied the right to education, including admission and **other facilities for lack of Aadhaar.** Aadhaar, being the sole basis for the creation of APAAR ID, violates the above-mentioned Circular and contradicts the Supreme Court’s judgement as it restricts students without Aadhaar access to benefits.

In consideration of the above, we respectfully urge your esteemed institution to:

1. Reiterate to students and parents that APAAR ID enrollment is voluntary and not mandatory.
2. Ensure that no coercive practices or deadlines are imposed for APAAR ID creation.
3. Ensure that no adverse consequences arise for students who refuse to enrol for APAAR ID.
4. Communicate strict data protection measures and ensure transparency in how student data is collected, stored, and used.
5. Establish a clear and accessible mechanism for withdrawing consent for APAAR ID enrollment, ensuring that students and parents can opt-out without any adverse consequences.

We trust that your institution will take prompt action to address these concerns.

Regards,

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1. Rajya Sabha, Session 266, Unstarred Question No. 998, <https://sansad.in/getFile/annex/266/AU998_Hmyjiv.pdf?source=pqars> [↑](#footnote-ref-0)
2. Government Claims APAAR ID is Voluntary, But Parents Face Pressure to Consent

<https://www.medianama.com/2024/12/223-govt-apaar-id-voluntary-parents-face-pressure/> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
3. Karnataka rolls out APAAR ID for school children <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/apaar-id-for-karnatakas-schoolchildren-faces-backlash/article68864296.ece> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
4. Amid parents raising doubts, 1.65 crore students assigned APAAR IDs so far

<https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/mumbai/student-apaar-ids-maharashtra-government-one-nation-one-student-9755119/> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
5. Aadhaar details, phone numbers of nearly 75 crore Indians put up for sale, claims cybersecurity firm, Scroll.in (January 25, 2024) <https://scroll.in/latest/1062708/aadhaar-details-phone-numbers-of-nearly-75-crore-indians-put-up-for-sale-says-cybersecurity-firm> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
6. Rajya Sabha, Session 266, Unstarred Question No. 998, <https://sansad.in/getFile/annex/266/AU998_Hmyjiv.pdf?source=pqars> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
7. RTI Application No. DSEL/R/T/24/01411, <https://x.com/SFLCin/status/1879097772646994278/photo/1> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
8. UIDAI Circular, No denial of admission in schools for want of Aadhaar and Organising special Aadhaar Enrollment/update camps at schools (September 2018).

<https://uidai.gov.in/images/resource/Circular-School-06092018.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
9. Justice K.S. Puttaswamy and Anr. vs. Union of India (UOI) and Ors. ((2019) 1 SCC 1) [↑](#footnote-ref-8)