

**How many government schemes are leveraging Aadhar for effective delivery?**

Across the nation, 500 State schemes and 315 Central schemes are being leveraged by Aadhaar to ensure effective service delivery.

**What is Aadhar?**

The Aadhar is a 12 -digit random number that is provided by the UIDAI to residents of India after the completion of a verification process. Any Indian citizen residing in the country, regardless of gender or age, can freely enroll for receiving an Aadhaar number. While enrolling, the person must provide basic biometric and demographic information. A person can register for Aadhar once and only one Aadhaar thus ensuring uniqueness. The Aadhar number that is generated is resilient and distinct enough to eliminate any form of fake and duplicate identities. The Aadhar can also be used as a form of identification for various government assistance programmes.

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**THE Asia University Rankings 2022**

On 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022, the latest edition of the Asia University Rankings was released by the Times Higher Education (THE). The 2022 edition of the rankings comprises 616 universities from 31 countries and territories across Asia. India is the third most-represented country in this 2022 rankings with 71 institutions making this list. In 2021, 62 Indian institutions made it to the rankings list.

**Which is the top-ranking university on this list?**

The only institute that has made it to the top 50 on the list is the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore with a rank of 42. The JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research has made its debut on this list with a rank of 65. It is followed by the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Ropar with a rank of 68 and IIT Indore with a rank of 87. Compared to the positions achieved in 2021, all the Indian institutes that were placed in the top-100 have slipped down. Among the top 200, there are 17 Indian universities in this year's rankings whereas in 2021 there were 18. Of the 14 that have made it to the ranking in both years, eight have risen.

**What are the ranks of the Indian universities?**

- Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore- 42
- JSS Academy- 65
- Indian Institute of Technology Ropar- 68
- Indian Institute of Technology Indore- 78
- Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar- 120
- Alagappa University- 122
- Thapar Institute – 127
- Saveetha University- 131
- Mahatma Gandhi University- 139
- Delhi Technological University- 149
- Banaras Hindu University- 153
- Institute of Chemical Technology- 158