



From The Editor's Desk

Dear Reader,

With the objective of transforming India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy, the government launched its flagship programme - "Digital India". Digitization & Digitalization has been a key pillar in the current development agenda of the government. With this they are out to transform the country by reaching out to common people in the most effective & efficient way. As part of this vision, the government has identified three focus areas namely;

- Digital Infrastructure as Utility to Every Citizen
- Governance and Services on Demand
- Digital Empowerment of Citizen

The key underlying purpose is to standardise and improve all aspects of citizen services by deploying digital technologies that offer convenience and security. This has resulted in various ministries and departments launching multiple digital initiatives under their ambit. This includes the Passport Seva Project, e-Filing of Income Tax returns, BHIM (cashless payments) and DigiLocker (digital storage of important documents) among others.

One such area of development undertaken by Ministry of Human Resources Development (MHRD) is National Academic Depository (NAD). NAD looks to address two key aspects that affect millions of students and job-seekers, issues related to maintaining academic certificates in physical form and the ability of academic institutions and potential employers to independently & quickly verify the authenticity of these certificates.

To address these issues, MHRD has authorised NSDL Database Management Limited (NDML) as one of the depositories to establish a National Academic Depository (NAD). This depository facilitates Academic Institutions to upload certificate information and allows students to access the same in a secured manner.

In this issue of The Financial Kaleidoscope, we introduce the concept behind NAD, how does it work and how you can benefit from it. We hope you find this useful. As always, do write to us with your feedback and comments.

Regards,
NSDL

Introduction to National Academic Depository (NAD)

What is NAD?

National Academic Depository (NAD) is an initiative of the Ministry of Human Resources Development (MHRD), Government of India and University Grants Commission (UGC). It aims to facilitate issuance, storage and verification of academic awards issued by various academic institutions. NAD offers students 24x7 access to their academic credentials in a secure manner from the convenience of their homes or from any part of the world. In addition to storage facility for students, NAD is also designed to authenticate and verify academic credentials that a potential employer or a related third-party may need to access.

What is the need for NAD?

Traditionally, we receive & maintain a physical copy of our educational certificates and marksheets. This is prone to damage or misplacement, and due to this, the process of getting a duplicate is often tedious for students as well as the administrators of academic institutions.

Very often employers, academic institutes and other third parties that offer grants or scholarships and immigration / visa officers need to verify an individual's academic credentials. However, the current process has its share of flaws and can be very time consuming owing to the paperwork involved.

Citizen intending to pursue higher studies abroad are required to furnish transcript of their degrees to show equivalence of their education. With different countries following different models of education, they may have their own format for the transcripts which makes it difficult and burdensome for students as well as colleges who need to physically process thousands of requests every year.

With many of the bogus academic certificates being circulated for various purposes like employment, loans etc., there was a urgent need for a central repository to come into place which could verify the genuineness of a degree certificate while at the same time protecting the future of students who fall prey to such schemes and fraudsters.

NAD has been conceptualized to do away with difficulties / inefficiencies of collecting, maintaining, and presenting physical paper certificates and providing a complete system for issuing online certificates to well identified and registered students and their subsequent retrieval for specified purpose.

What are the benefits of NAD?

NAD offers various benefits to students, academic institutions and verifiers as follows:

Benefits to students

- ✓ NAD is a permanent repository of all academic credentials available to students at all times and at their own convenience.
- ✓ There is no risk of damaging or misplacing academic certificates since they are in digital form.
- ✓ In case of loss there is no need to physically visit University to apply for a duplicate certificate or to collect one since after a student registers for NAD, he/she can view his/her academic certificates online.
- ✓ All certificates in NAD are verified & uploaded with digital signature by respective academic institutions and can be provided to employers for seeking employment. This takes away the requirement of separate authentication of academic records.
- ✓ NAD is a secure system which can be accessed only by authorised users. The system also maintains an audit trail of all activities to ensure accountability and to prevent misuse.
- ✓ NAD allows students to request printed copies of all information stored in the system incase of any specific requirement.

Benefits to Academic Institutions

- ✓ NAD is an online, quick and secure way of issuing academic certificates which eliminates the need for printing and distributing certificates.
- ✓ Certificate records are maintained in a secure and well organised IT system which prevents loss of records.
- ✓ Issuing duplicate certificates and transcripts or verifying academic records can be a very time consuming for academic institutions. With pre-verified credentials available in NAD, these services can be automated and delivered digitally.
- ✓ NAD allows academic institutions to make considerable savings in terms of time and money by reducing the administrative processes.
- ✓ NAD facilitates standardisation of formats and design as well as the process of issuing degrees and certificates.
- ✓ NAD does not permit individuals to upload awards or certificates. They can request the concerned institution to seed the certificate / degree in their account. This eliminates the risk of fake or bogus certificates.

Benefits to Verifiers

- ✓ All third parties who need to verify the academic credentials of an individual can access the information online in a quick and reliable manner.
- ✓ They can access authenticated copy of certificates thus eliminating the risk of fake or forged certificates.
- ✓ This reduces the cost, time and efforts required for verifying an individual's academic record.
- ✓ All verifiers are required to register and undergo a KYC process which makes the entire system secure.
- ✓ Verifiers can access a host of details related to academic institutions. This includes list of all participating institutions and their affiliates, list of courses offered and the academic awards lodged with NAD.
- ✓ Verifiers can request access to or verification of any certificate held by a registered NAD user subject to his / her consent.

Academic awards covered under NAD

NAD covers the following types of academic awards that may be issued to an individual by a registered academic institution -

- Degree
- Diploma
- Marksheet
- Provisional Certificate
- Transcript
- Migration Certificate
- Skill certificate for vocational education

Academic institutions covered under NAD

The following types of academic institutions are eligible to register with NAD -

- Central University
- State University
- Private University
- Deemed-to-be University
- Institutions formed under an Act of Parliament
- Institutions operating under or approved by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)
- Central, State and other Boards of Secondary and Higher Education
- Entrance or eligibility tests approved by UGC

Who provides NAD services?

MHRD has designated UGC to establish and operationalise NAD. Following this, UGC has authorised two entities to offer NAD services in India. One of them is NSDL Database Management Limited (NDML), which is a 100% subsidiary of India's premier depository - National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL).

Process of registration for students

Process of registration with Aadhaar

- Step 1** Visit the website www.nad.ndml.in, click on “**Register**” tab for new registration and click on “**JOIN NOW**” or click on link <https://nad.ndml.in/NAD/newStudentRegistrationScreen.html>.
- Step 2** Here one needs to upload XML file of Aadhaar Paperless Offline e-KYC. To generate such XML file, click on “Click Here” to generate XML file of Aadhaar Paperless Offline e-KYC OR click on link <https://resident.uidai.gov.in/offline-kyc>.
- Step 3** Enter your 12 digit Aadhaar and ‘Security Code’ (Captcha Code) and click on Send OTP. UIDAI will send you an OTP to your mobile number registered in AADHAAR with UIDAI for verification. Enter the OTP as received from UIDAI and enter Share Code (any 4 digit password of your choice) and click on Submit.
- Step 4** You will receive an encrypted XML File from UIDAI on screen which needs to be downloaded and saved on your laptop/computer and further uploaded on ‘Aadhaar Paperless Offline e-KYC’ section on link <https://nad.ndml.in/NAD/newStudentRegistrationScreen.html>.
- Step 5** Enter the same 4 digit password (share code as in Step 3) and enter Captcha Code and click on Submit.
- Step 6** The details as available in your Aadhaar will be displayed on screen. You need to create preferred user ID and password of your choice.
- Step 7** You would receive a document with the system generated NAD ID on your registered email, take a printout and submit it to respective college / university.
- Step 8** Once your NAD ID is mapped by college / university with your academic award, you can access the award from your NAD account by login at <https://nad.ndml.in/NAD/login.html> with your user ID and password.

Process of registration without Aadhaar

- Step 1** Visit the website www.nad.ndml.in, click on “**Register**” tab for new registration and click on “**JOIN NOW**” and then click “**I do not have an Aadhaar**”. Alternatively, just click on link <https://nad.ndml.in/NAD/studentRegistrationWithoutAadhaar.html>.
- Step 2** Input all your personal details along with your email ID and mobile number to receive an OTP.
- Step 3** Upload a recent passport size photograph image (in jpg or tiff) and signature image (in jpg or tiff).
- Step 4** Enter your academic details, type and state of the university correctly. You need to select university from the list of universities in dropdown where you need to approach for activating your NAD registration.
- Step 5** Create your login details with preferred User ID and Password and click Submit.
- Step 6** You will receive an OTP on your mobile number (as entered in step 2 above) which you will have to enter on screen. Click Verify to complete your registration.
- Step 7** An acknowledgement will be sent on your email ID as entered in step 2 above. Take a printout of the acknowledgement and submit it to your university (as selected in step 4) for activation of your account.
- Step 8** Once your university activates your NAD registration, a NAD ID will be allotted to you and you will receive a notification of the same by email.
- Step 9** Once your NAD ID is mapped by college / university with your academic award, you can access the award from your NAD account by login at <https://nad.ndml.in/NAD/login.html> with your user ID and password.

Benefits of Aadhaar based registration

Aadhaar based registration has following benefits and hence preferred by students -

- Registration is completed in few minutes as student identity is verified through AADHAAR based offline KYC.
- NAD ID is allotted instantaneously after completion of registration unlike for non AADHAAR based registration wherein NAD ID is allotted after authorization from university/academic institution.
- Student can handover NAD ID details to his academic institution for inclusion in his academic awards data and access the same from www.nad.ndml.in.

What is the difference between NAD and DigiLocker?

DigiLocker is a service provided by the Government of India that allows citizens to store certificates and important documents in a digital format. These documents are verified by respective issuing parties which enable users to access and share these documents remotely in a secure manner. So, what is the difference between NAD and DigiLocker?

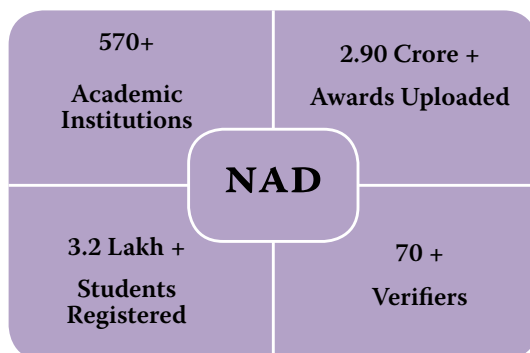
- While DigiLocker is meant for storage of important documents, NAD is designed specifically for academic data.
- Under DigiLocker, only the users are allowed to access the contents of their DigiLocker, whereas NAD allows access to authenticated third party users who need to verify academic credentials of a user.
- NAD provides a standardised and consolidated platform to store academic records across all levels of education and academic institutions.
- While DigiLocker depends on the user to upload the documents they want to store, NAD provides registered users an option to receive their academic awards directly into their account in a paperless and secure fashion.

History and global deployment of similar digital academic depositories

As we become a truly globalised society, there has been a sharp increase in cross-border movement of citizen for education and employment. However, the variations in academic structure and standards across the globe make it difficult for academic institutions and potential employers in a different country to access and verify student credentials. This necessitated the need for a standardised depository at a country-level to streamline the process.

The seeds for such an initiative were sown in 2012 with the Groningen Declaration. A network of voluntary signatories with no binding power, the Groningen Declaration has been signed by multiple stakeholders from more than 25 countries across the globe. India was one of the earliest to join and has set the benchmark for such an initiative. NSDL Database Management Limited is also one of the signatories to Groningen Declaration and working to take NAD at a global level.

Important statistics of NDML NAD as on July 31, 2019



It gives me immense pleasure in penning down few of my ideas about the need, importance and relevance of NAD. Having made inroads in the Indian technology landscape in the early years of 21st century, this facility is still awaiting greater penetration in the Indian society. There has been a sea change in the world of higher education in our country since last 2 decades. The level of progression and education oriented migration is at accelerated speed. There have been huge additions in the number of universities (private and public), affiliated colleges, autonomous institutions and technical universities. These new age educational institutions rely on technology in such a way that most of their activities are electronically transmitted, delivered and acted upon. This networking through electronic mode and the internet has made the horizontal and vertical collaborations between institutes of higher education in India and abroad.



To ease out this process and to hasten the exchange of information about the credentials of individual learners, NAD plays a pivotal role. By providing 'digilocks', NAD enables the safe custody of the academic documents of the students who subscribe to it. As a head of an autonomous college, I come across situations faced by the present and past students with respect to the retrieval of documents supporting their educational qualifications. The efforts and time invested by them to put together their own personal papers pertaining to academics becomes so expensive given the urgency at which they need to consolidate them. I have witnessed the stress and pain expressed by the students and their families especially when they were to face critical time limits. Visa processing, Permanent Residency, admission deadlines and the like requires verification of academic documents of the person trying for any one of the above. The issue turns more critical when the applicant is a multidimensional personality, having acquired multiple qualifications from different educational institutions. It is anybody's guess about the difficulty level of maintaining papers, in an organized way and more so to retrieve them at the needed point of time.

NAD is a great solution to this ordeal and is the best way to preserve our academic papers. The tech savvy present generation needs to understand the benefits of NAD which could never be over emphasized. After successful implementation of getting the financial papers dematerialized, NSDL has taken up this great service of getting the academic papers in the 'demat' form. This needs to be popularized at all the educational institutions such that we march one more step towards a paperless world.

News Section

Changes in IPO application process

With effect from July 1, 2019, retail individual investors can submit Bid-cum-application form with any intermediary (namely syndicate member or sub-syndicate member or stock broker or depository participant or registrar to an issue and share transfer agent) using his / her UPI ID linked to own account for the purpose of blocking of funds.

Reference: SEBI Circular No. SEBI/HO/CFD/DIL2/CIR/P/2019/76 dated June 28, 2019.

Training Programmes for Participants

➤ NISM certification programme for Participants

To facilitate officials of Participants to prepare and appear for NISM - Series VI - Depository Operations Certification Examination (DOCE), NSDL conducted a training programme at Mumbai in June 2019.

➤ CPE Training Programme for Participants

NSDL, a NISM accredited Continuing Professional Education (CPE) Provider offers CPE training programmes in different modules for eligible associated persons. In June 2019, NSDL conducted eight such training programmes at Ahmedabad, Chennai, Kolkata, Mumbai and New Delhi.

Investor Education initiatives undertaken by NSDL

NSDL conducts Investor Awareness Programmes (IAPs) throughout the country to ensure investors are aware of different aspects of investing. Till date, NSDL has conducted over 3,500 programmes which have been attended by more than 3.43 Lakh investors. Feedback received from investors during these IAPs is extremely encouraging. While schedule of these programs is published online at <https://nsdl.co.in/Investor-Awareness-Programmes.php>, we shall be happy to conduct IAPs for your organization / institute / society. Help us in driving the investor education initiative further by writing to us at info@nsdl.co.in about such programmes to be conducted.

More the education, more the prudence.

Forthcoming Investor Awareness Programmes

| Sr. No. | Date | Venue | City | State | Timing |
|---------|-----------|--|------------|------------|--------------------|
| 1 | 22-Aug-19 | Hotel Woodies Bliesure, Kallai Road, Near Railway Station Kozhikode - 673002, Kerala | Kozhikode | Kerala | 05.30 p.m. onwards |
| 2 | 22-Aug-19 | CJ Pallazzio, 201/6, Junction Main Rd, State Bank Colony, Meyyanur, Salem - 636005, Tamil Nadu | Salem | Tamil Nadu | 06.30 p.m. onwards |
| 3 | 23-Aug-19 | Broad Bean Hotel, Central Bus Terminal, Thavakkara, Kannur - 670001, Kerala | Kannur | Kerala | 05.30 p.m. onwards |
| 4 | 24-Aug-19 | Hotel Haritha Kakatiya, Near, Main Road, Adalath Circle, Nakkala Gutta, Hanamkonda - 506001, Telangana | Hanamkonda | Telangana | 04.00 p.m. onwards |
| 5 | 25-Aug-19 | Hotel Hassan Ashhok, P.B. No. 121, B.M. Road, Hassan - 573201, Karnataka | Hassan | Karnataka | 04.30 p.m. onwards |
| 6 | 30-Aug-19 | Hotel K K Residency, Opp. Bus Stand, Payyanur-670307, Kerala | Payyanur | Kerala | 05.30 p.m. onwards |
| 7 | 31-Aug-19 | Zip by Spree Hotels Mangala International, No. 340, Nehru St, Peranaidu Layout, Ram Nagar, Coimbatore - 641009, Tamil Nadu | Coimbatore | Tamil Nadu | 06.00 p.m. onwards |

* Schedule is subject to change. Please visit <https://nsdl.co.in/Investor-Awareness-Programmes.php> for updated schedule.

Empowering investors through e-Voting

NSDL and NISM organises a series of programs at different places all over the country to spread awareness about the rights of shareholders and importance of voting as shareholders. Schedule of the forthcoming programs would be published soon.

Admission is FREE for all investors.

Forthcoming Training Programmes for Participants on Continuing Professional Education (CPE) - Depository Operations Module

| Sr. No. | Date of Training | Location of Training |
|---------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | August 23, 2019 | Mumbai |
| 2 | August 24, 2019 | Ahmedabad and Kolkata |
| 3 | August 31, 2019 | New Delhi |
| 4 | September 14, 2019 | Ahmedabad |
| 5 | September 21, 2019 | Kolkata |
| 6 | September 27, 2019 | Mumbai |
| 7 | September 28, 2019 | Ahmedabad and New Delhi |

Schedule is subject to change.

Question for Knowledge Wins contest !

What are the benefits that NSDL NAD offers to a student?

Email your reply mentioning your name, address and contact no. with the subject 'Knowledge Wins Contest - June 2019' to info@nsdl.co.in

Terms and Conditions

- NSDL shall be solely responsible for the execution and administration of this Contest.
- This Contest is only open to Indian Citizens. (NSDL employees are not allowed to participate in this contest.)
- All personal details submitted must be accurate and complete and are subject to proof upon request by NSDL.
- NSDL reserves the right, at any time, to verify the validity of entries and entrants and to disqualify any entry not submitted in accordance with these Terms or which tampers with the entry process.
- NSDL reserves the right to discontinue the contest at any given point of time without prior intimation.
- All prize drawings will be made on a strictly random basis and the decision made by NSDL will be final

KNOWLEDGE WINS Contest

Lucky 25
Winners will
Win Free
Goodies



Your suggestions for newsletter are valuable to us.

Send in your suggestions mentioning your
name, address and contact number
with the subject

"Suggestions for the newsletter"

to info@nsdl.co.in

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- For any grievances, you can email us at relations@nsdl.co.in
- To know more about NSDL Certification Program, you can email us at trainingdept@nsdl.co.in
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