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## INDIA - GENERAL POLICY ALERT

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### Indefinite extension of mandatory linking of Aadhaar with PAN Card, Bank Accounts and Mobile number



The Supreme Court has extended the March 31, 2018 deadline for mandatory linking of Aadhaar to avail various services and welfare schemes run by the government till its constitution bench delivered its verdict on the validity of the 12-digit biometric identification number (Aadhaar) and its enabling law.

***“The extension of deadline would also apply on the mandatory linking of Aadhaar with the PAN, bank accounts, mobile phone numbers.”***

The Apex court is currently hearing various petitions, challenging the constitutional validity of Aadhaar and its enabling act, including the linking of bank accounts and mobile numbers with Aadhaar.

On December 15 last year, the apex court had extended till March 31 the deadline for mandatory linking of Aadhaar with various services and welfare schemes.

If any resident of India has missed to linked his/her Aadhaar to the mobile number or bank account yet, this might come as a relief



The Constitution Bench of the apex court is hearing challenges to the constitutional validity of the Aadhaar scheme on the touchstone of the fundamental right to privacy on a bunch of petitions

The UIDAI (Aadhaar issuing authority), however, has said the requirement of Aadhaar for opening new bank accounts or applying for Tatkal passports will continue, while the deadline for linking it to existing bank accounts, mobile and PAN has been extended by the Supreme Court.

Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has clarified that, the requirement of Aadhaar for opening new bank accounts under the relevant laws continues as per Supreme Court's order.