

# UIDAI will assign Aadhaar number to all JEE aspirants on priority by early Jan

BY KOMAL GUPTA & PRASHANT K. NANDA

NEW DELHI

**T**he Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) on Monday directed its registrars and associated agencies to enrol all candidates taking the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE), for admission to the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and other engineering schools, by early January.

The move follows the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) decision to make it mandatory for all JEE candidates to provide either their 12-digit Aadhaar number or 28-digit Aadhaar enrolment receipt number in their applications.

CBSE, under the ministry of human resource development (HRD), conducts the JEE-Main test. The JEE-Main is the first of the two-tier entrance system for selection of students to the prestigious IITs, National Institutes Technology (NITs) and other leading engineering schools in the country.

More than 1.2 million aspirants sit for the JEE-Main examination every year. The online application process will start on 1 December for JEE 2017. The last date to register for the examination is 2 January and fees can be paid up to 3 January.

"UIDAI has directed all its registrars and enrolment agencies to enrol JEE applicants on a priority basis," Ajay Bhushan Pandey, chief executive of UIDAI, said. He said in order to facilitate the process, UIDAI has asked its regional offices to make necessary arrangements at its enrolment centres and also at facilitation centres in each city of examination being set up by the CBSE, till the last date of application.

CBSE has said in its JEE-Main website that all Indian citizens, except those from Assam, Jammu & Kashmir and Meghalaya, should possess an Aadhaar card issued by UIDAI.

"At the time of filling the application form of JEE (Main)-2017, the candidates will have to enter their Aadhaar number, name, date of birth and gender, which will be validated with the UIDAI's data. In case these particulars do not match, candidates will not be able to fill the form," CBSE said.

*komal.g@livemint.com*