Face-Authenticated Digital Life Certificates — India's Contactless Proof-of-Life for Pensioners, Scaled to 91 Lakh Certificates in 2025 Amid Inconsistent Official Figures

Digital Inclusion · Good practice · India

Quality score: 52/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

India lets pensioners submit their annual life certificate by Aadhaar face scan on a phone, avoiding bank visits and fingerprint failures. 2025's campaign logged 1.54 crore certificates, 91 lakh by face scan; official growth claims don't add up.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Innovation level	3/5
Sustainability (ongoing)	1/1
Evaluation evidence	0/1
Demonstrated reach	1/1
Documented learning	0/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-11-23

Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW), Government of India — accessed 2026-11-23

News On AIR — DLC Campaign 4.0 results (1 Dec 2025) — accessed 2026-11-23

IANS — 1.54 crore DLCs, 91 lakh by face authentication (1 Dec 2025) — accessed 2026-11-23

News On AIR — DLC Campaign 3.0 results (1 Dec 2024) — accessed 2026-11-23

Daily Excelsior — 52 lakh pensioners used face authentication — accessed 2026-11-23

DoPPW guidelines for DLC Campaign 3.0 — accessed 2026-11-23

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