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Now, digital driving licence, registration certificate valid documents

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PATNA: The state transport department on Monday issued notification to all traffic superintendents of police (SP) and district authorities to accept the digital format of driving licence (DL) and registration certificate (RC) from commuters through DigiLocker app as a valid and legal document henceforth.

Bihar is the third state after Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh to use DigiLocker for DL. Two persons on Monday linked their Aadhaar numbers and uploaded their DLs to the app in the presence of transport department principal secretary Sanjay Kumar Agarwal at the Patna district transport office (DTO).

As per the country's Information Technology Act 2000, the digital copy that can be accessed from DigiLocker app are treated as original documents. "The documents can be viewed even when offline from the issued folder in the app in case there is any network problem. The app provides 1GB capacity for uploading any document to the uploaded document folder on the app. The issued folder, that is linked to the National Informatics Centres, is limitless and can hold a number of documents," Agarwal said. The app has to be linked with the Aadhaar number of the user.

People can also download their certificates from the uploaded documents folder. Till date, the state has issued approximately 30 lakh driving licences. "More than half of this number are already in the digital form. People will no longer fear losing these documents. People who have been issued or renewed a driving licence in the last 15 years will find their DL and RC information already in the database," Agarwal said.

Although the digital copy would not be applicable and valid in cases where the DL and RC need to be seized by a government authority. Agarwal also inspected the DTO where he found people waiting in long queue to renew their driving licences. Agarwal instructed the DTO to increase the number of counters and assign more people to carry out the work.

DigiLocker is a cloud-based storage platform where one can save digital copy of legal documents and certificates such as PAN card, DL, education certificates and other such government identification documents and cards.