

Know Your Rights

DIGIYATRA
EDITION



INTERNET
FREEDOM
FOUNDATION



WHAT IS IT?

DigiYatra, a **voluntary** check-in service at Indian airports, uses facial recognition technology to supposedly help you board your plane faster.

But it does so with inadequate privacy safeguards, in a non-transparent data ecosystem, and sometimes without your consent, making it a challenge for you to navigate airports without enrolling in the service.



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

DigiYatra is a **voluntary** airport service. It cannot be imposed on you by coercion or without your explicit consent. If you find yourself being forced to enroll, consider doing the following at the airport entrance:



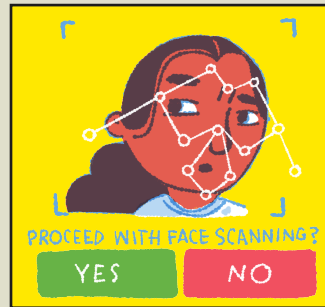
Put on your PPE (Privacy Protecting Equipment **)



Inquire about the DigiYatra lane, and steer clear.



Opt for IDs like PAN, Voter Card, Driver's license, or Passport instead of Aadhaar. If using Aadhaar, closely guard it and decline any recording or scanning.



Check the screen next to the security personnel. If it prompts "Proceed with face scanning?", select 'No'.



If no message appears and security personnel instruct face scanning, inquire about the message or a consent form and insist on selecting 'No'



If security personnel persists, ask to see the government order supporting their claims.



If security personnel still persists, present a copy of this RTI response from the Ministry of Civil Aviation (scan the QR code below) explicitly stating that "DigiYatra is not mandatory."



In addition to all of this, at the security check, say no to face scanning.

Stand your ground, ask questions, and inform those around you of their rights too.



« Scan QR for RTI response from the Ministry of Civil Aviation



WHAT'S THE HARM?

DigiYatra collects/processes your personal identifiable information along with sensitive facial data to authenticate you in airport security processes. Its non-transparent methods of storing, processing and sharing this data, along with a weak privacy policy, are deeply concerning.

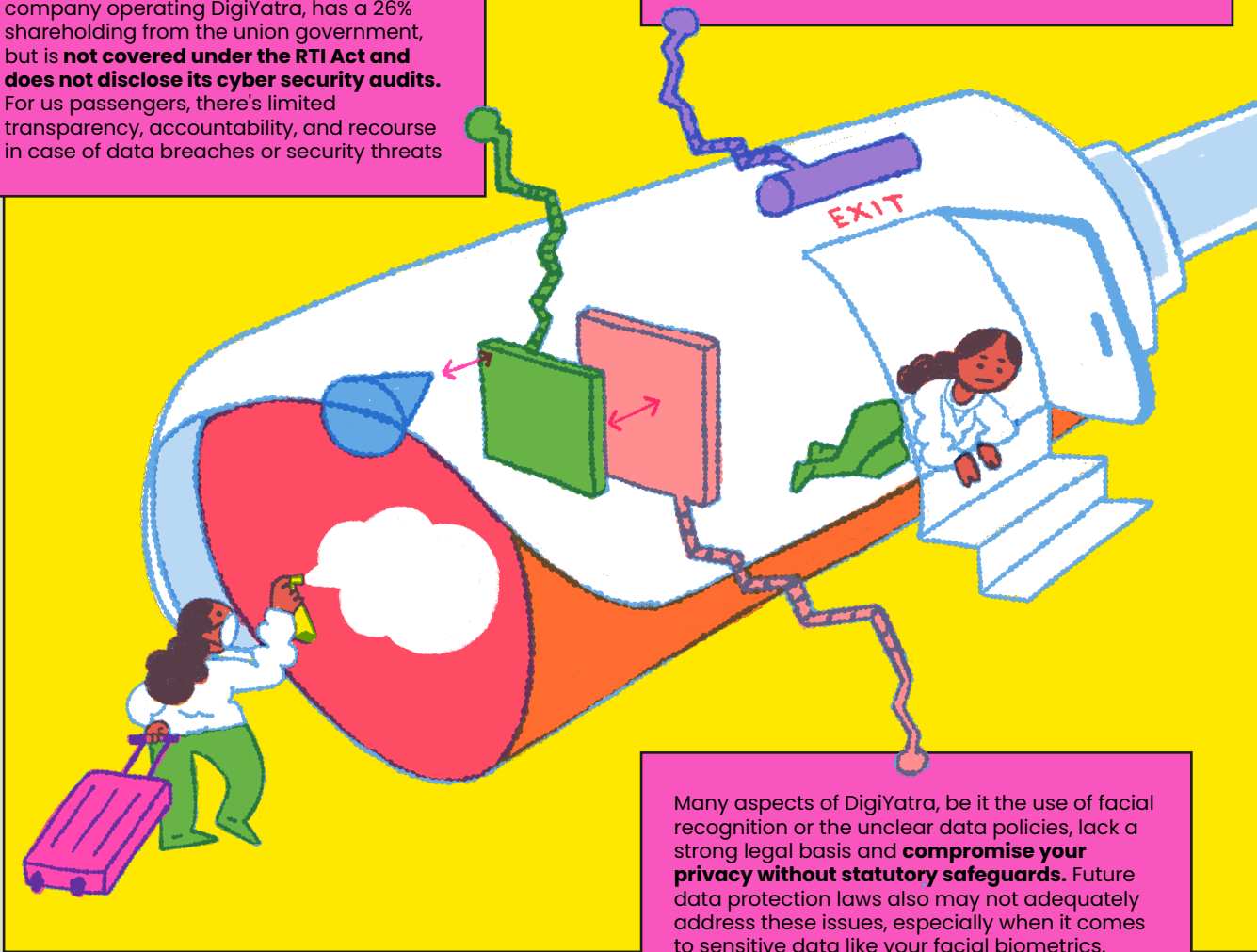


SURVEILLANCE

Facial recognition technology is known for being inaccurate and if misused, can become a tool for surveillance without your knowledge or consent. How DigiYatra uses your facial data and how secure its data ecosystem really is, remains a worrying mystery.

The DigiYatra Foundation, a private company operating DigiYatra, has a 26% shareholding from the union government, but is **not covered under the RTI Act and does not disclose its cyber security audits**. For us passengers, there's limited transparency, accountability, and recourse in case of data breaches or security threats

DigiYatra's privacy policy potentially allows for **your data to be used** by the Foundation and third parties **for a variety of unrelated purposes without your explicit consent** and far beyond its stated use of providing a "hassle-free" airport experience. The lack of transparency leaves unanswered questions about the effectiveness of DigiYatra's claims of 'privacy by design' since it does not periodically publish any audits or reports to prove so, which causes a much bigger hassle!



Many aspects of DigiYatra, be it the use of facial recognition or the unclear data policies, lack a strong legal basis and **compromise your privacy without statutory safeguards**. Future data protection laws also may not adequately address these issues, especially when it comes to sensitive data like your facial biometrics.

RESIST SURVEILLANCE TECHNOLOGIES, REJECT DIGIYATRA

TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS SURROUNDING DIGIYATRA, READ OUR ANALYSIS AT [INTERNETFREEDOM.IN/REJECT-DIGIYATRA/](https://internetfreedom.in/reject-digiyatra/)

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