



FACULTY OF JURIDICAL SCIENCES

COURSE:BA.LL.B

Semester : VIII th

SUBJECT: Cyber Law

SUBJECT CODE:BAL-805

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Lecture-17



LECTURE 17: Digital signature certificates,

Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) Applicants can directly approach Certifying Authorities (CAs) with original supporting documents, and self-attested copies will be sufficient in this case

- DSCs can also be obtained, wherever offered by CA, using Aadhar eKYC based authentication, and supporting documents are not required in this case
- A letter/certificate issued by a Bank containing the DSC applicant's information as retained in the Bank database can be accepted. Such letter/certificate should be certified by the Bank Manager .

Digital Signature Certificates (DSC) are the digital equivalent (that is electronic format) of physical or paper certificates. Few Examples of physical certificates are drivers' licenses, passports or membership cards. Certificates serve as proof of identity of an individual for a certain purpose; for example, a driver's license identifies someone who can legally drive in a particular country. Likewise, a digital certificate can be presented electronically to prove one's identity, to access information or services on the Internet or to sign certain documents digitally.

These are required because Physical documents are signed manually, similarly, electronic documents, for example e-forms are required to be signed digitally using a Digital Signature Certificate.

A licensed Certifying Authority (CA) issues the digital signature. Certifying Authority (CA) means a person who has been granted a license to issue a digital signature certificate under Section 24 of the Indian IT-Act 2000.

The list of licensed CAs along with their contact information is available on the MCA portal. [Certifying Authorities](#)

The different types of Digital Signature Certificates are:

Class 2: Here, the identity of a person is verified against a trusted, pre-verified database.

Class 3: This is the highest level where the person needs to present himself or herself in front of a Registration Authority (RA) and prove his/ her identity.

DSC of either Class 2 and Class 3 signing certificate category issued by a licensed Certifying Authority (CA) needs to be obtained for e-Filing on the MCA Portal.

The cost of obtaining a digital signature certificate may vary as there are many entities issuing DSCs and their charges may differ. Kindly check with Certifying Authority directly for charges.

SELF-TEST QUESTIONS

S.NO	Question	Option (a)	Option (b)
1.			
2.			

3.			
4.			
5.			

Answers: 1-(),2-(), 3-(),4-(),5-()