File no. K-11020/217/2018-UIDAI (Auth-I)
Government of India
Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
Unique Identification Authority of India
Authentication Division

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Dated: 01st May 2018

CIRCULAR No. 04 OF 2018

Sub: Enhancing Privacy of Aadhaar holders - Implementation of Virtual ID, UID Token and Limited e-KYC

Reference is invited to this office circular No. 1 of 2018 (file no. K-11020/217/2018-UIDAI (Auth-I)) dated 10.01.2018 regarding implementation of Virtual ID, UID Token and Limited e-KYC for enhancing privacy of Aadhaar holders. It was notified that UIDAI would release necessary APIs for implementation and all AUAs/KUAs/ASAs shall accordingly need to make necessary changes in their respective authentication systems for use of Virtual ID, UID Token, and Limited e-KYC. Accordingly, new APIs i.e. Authentication API 2.5, e-KYC API 2.5 and OTP Request API 2.5 have been published on UIDAI Authentication Portal.

2.   The necessary steps to be taken by AUAs/KUAs and ASAs in this regard are again mentioned as follows:

2.1   For AUA/KUAs:

i.   All AUAs/KUAs shall ensure that Aadhaar number or VID should not be stored while sending authentication /e-KYC request to CIDR.

ii.   All AUAs/KUAs shall capture the UID Token and Aadhaar number (only in case of Global AUAs/KUAs) as sent by UIDAI in response to authentication / e-KYC request in their database.

iii.   All Local AUAs/KUAs shall ensure to replace Aadhaar numbers with UID Tokens and delete all Aadhaar numbers from their database including transaction logs by 31.08.2018

iv.   All KUAs shall ensure that their application and backend system are designed in such a way that if in future it is decided to restrict some of the demographic fields as part of Limited e-KYC response, it can be handled without any changes in their system.

v.   AUAs/KUAs shall submit the compliance report to UIDAI as soon as they upgrade their system to support Auth API 2.5, e-KYC API 2.5 and OTP API 2.5.

2.2   For ASAs:

i.   ASAs shall immediately provide the facility of testing for VID, UID Token and Limited e-KYC in pre-production environment to their AUAs/KUAs.

ii.   ASAs shall not store Aadhaar number, UID Token or VID in their transaction logs.

iii.   ASAs shall submit the compliance report to UIDAI as soon as they upgrade their system to compliance of Auth API 2.5, e-KYC API 2.5 and OTP API 2.5.

3.   It has further been decided to extend the timeline for implementation of Virtual ID, UID Token and Limited e-KYC by one month to 01st July 2018 for all AUAs/KUAs and ASAs. It may be noted that Virtual ID, UID Token and Limited E-KYC are crucial for enhancing security and privacy of resident's Aadhaar number and e-KYC data in the Aadhaar authentication eco-system. Therefore, it is imperative that all AUAs/KUAs and ASAs make necessary changes in their systems in a time bound manner.

Further, attention is invited to Regulations 14(n), 17(g) and 19(o) of Aadhaar (Authentication) Regulations, 2016, whereby AUAs and ASAs shall comply with any contractual terms, regulations, policies, procedures, specifications, standards and directions issued by the Authority, for the purposes of using the authentication facilities provided by the Authority. Violation of these Regulations shall attract financial disincentives as per schedule of disincentives in AUA/KUA and ASA Agreements as well as constitute criminal offence under sections 42 and 43 of the Aadhaar Act, 2016 punishable with imprisonment and fine.

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