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Govt rolls out new mechanism for Aadhaar authentication

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The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has successfully rolled out a new security mechanism for Aadhaar-based fingerprint authentication, and faster detection of spoofing attempts.

The artificial intelligence and machine learning (AI/ML) based security mechanism developed in-house is now using a combination of both finger minutia and finger image to check the liveness of the fingerprint captured. This is making Aadhaar authentication transactions even more robust and secure.

The new two-factor/layer authentication is adding additional checks to validate the genu-



ineness (liveness) of the fingerprint so as to further cut down the chances of spoofing attempts.

"The move will be of immense use in segments including banking and financials, telecom and government sectors. It shall also benefit the bottom of the pyramid as it will further strengthen the Aadhaar-enabled payment system and curb malicious attempts by unscrupulous elements," an official press note today said.

The new security mechanism for Aadhaar-based fingerprint authentication has now become fully functional. The rollout and migration happened after months of discussion and hand-holding by UIDAI of its partners and user agencies.

A constant engagement and due diligence of UIDAI with authentication user agencies (AUAs) were carried out to impress upon AUAs/ Sub

AUAs the benefit of the new modalities. AUA is an entity engaged in providing Aadhaar-enabled services to Aadhaar number holders using authentication as facilitated by the authentication service agency. Sub-AUAs are agencies that use Aadhaar authentication to enable their services through an existing requesting entity. With the new system in place, only finger image or only finger minutiae-based Aadhaar authentication has given way to robust two-factor authentication – a win-win for all stakeholders.

The UIDAI head office and its regional offices are in touch with all entities for facilitating any user agency (that may not have migrated yet) to switch over to the new secured authentication mode at the earliest.