

**IMPORTANT**

No. K-11020/44/2012-UIDAI (Auth-I)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Electronics & IT  
Unique Identification Authority of India  
(Authentication Division)

Tower I, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Jeevan Bharati Building,  
Connaught circus, New Delhi-110001.  
Dated: 25.01.2017

To

All AUAs, ASAs

**Sub:** Upgradation of existing biometric public devices to Registered Devices

Dear Partners,

UIDAI is committed towards providing the highest quality of services in an efficient and secure manner. To enhance the security level, UIDAI has taken several security measures to ensure security of transactions and end to end traceability during the authentication process. To make it more robust and secure, UIDAI along with biometric device vendors and STQC is working on the concept of Registered Devices.

2. The key features of Registered Devices are:
  - a. Device identification – Every device will have a unique identifier allowing traceability, analytics and fraud management.
  - b. Eliminating advanced replay attacks – Biometric data is signed within the device using the provider key to ensure it is indeed captured live.
  - c. A standardized and certified Device Driver is to be provided by the device providers. This device driver (exposed via an SDK/Service) encapsulates the biometric capture, any user experience while capture (such as preview), and signing and encryption of biometrics all within it. The Device Driver must form the encrypted PID block before returning to the host application.

- d. There are two levels of Registered Devices named as Level 0 (software level upgrade is possible for existing public devices) and Level 1 (hardware and software level changes are required).The detailed specifications for Registered Devices are available at the link below:

[https://uidai.gov.in/images/resource/aadhaar\\_registered\\_devices\\_2\\_0\\_09112016.pdf](https://uidai.gov.in/images/resource/aadhaar_registered_devices_2_0_09112016.pdf)

3. It is expected that device vendor SDK's would be certified as either Level 0 or Level 1 by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017. Please contact your biometric device vendor for their schedule to support registered devices. Register device authentication backend capability will be live by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

4. A decision has been taken by UIDAI that use of public devices will be discontinued and only Registered Devices will be allowed to perform Aadhaar based authentication. Therefore, you need to ensure that all biometric devices deployed for Aadhaar enabled services are upgraded to Level 0 / Level 1 Registered Device by 1<sup>st</sup> June 2017 and all future procurement of biometric devices shall from now on be as per Level 0 / Level 1 Registered Device specifications. Authentication applications will also require modification to support the registered device SDK (Level 0 / Level 1). UIDAI Authentication API 2.0 will be upgraded to only support registered device authentication. This will promote a direct upgrade from the current applications with public devices using API 1.6 to applications with registered devices using API 2.0. Accordingly, the timelines for the support for Authentication API 1.6 will be extended from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 to 1<sup>st</sup> June 2017. Please note that there will be no extension of this timeline and use of public devices after 1<sup>st</sup> June 2017 shall result in failed authentication transactions for which the responsibility shall be yours.

5. You may also immediately ask your device vendor to ensure upgrade of existing biometric devices to Registered Devices and provide all the required support and details for the upgrade.

6. All ASAs also need to ensure that they are able to support Auth API 2.0 which supports Registered Devices and accordingly need to prepare their system on top priority.

7. Your application development team also needs to be sensitized as changes will be required in the application and backend server to make it compatible with Registered Device and Authentication API 2.0 and would need to be tested thoroughly. Therefore, it is suggested that your technical team should be ready and get in touch with your biometric device supplier/vendor for upgradation to the latest Registered Devices specifications.

8. UIDAI is committed to ensuring that all necessary applications are upgraded on time and there is smooth transition to Registered Devices. UIDAI has already initiated workshops with all stakeholders including device providers and will continuously support entire ecosystem during this transition. In case you have any query on Registered Devices, you may kindly get in touch with UIDAI team:

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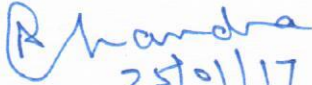
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9. This issues with the approval of CEO, UIDAI.

  
25/01/17  
(Ajai Chandra)  
ADG (Auth)

Copy for information to:

1. DG, STQC
2. Sh. Anup Kumar, ADG UIDAI
3. Sh. Pramod Varma, Chief Technology Architect, UIDAI
4. Sh. Vivek Raghavan, Chief Product Manager, UIDAI
5. All device vendors having STQC certified biometric devices