Aadhaar very secure: Nilekani

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Infosys co-founder and its non-executive chairman Nandan Nilekani on Tuesday said that Unique Identification Number (UID) is a very secure identification proof and it does not accumulate data.

"It is used for digital authentication. There is no data that is exchanged and misused," Nilekani spoke at a conference on 'Unlocking US-India Trade Potential', organised by the US Consul General.

Nilekani announced that Infosys was opening an innovation hub in Indiana and would hire 2,000 people, with a plan to set up more hubs in the US. He sees a huge potential in

Journalist Maya Mirchandani, Paula Stern, founder, The Stern Group and Nandan Nilekani, non-executive Chairman, Infosys in Bengaluru on Tuesday

the business relationship between US and India in the wake of start-ups emerging domestically.

While alluding to the digital authentication aspect of Aadhaar, Nilekani said, "Microsoft has Skype and Skype is integrated by Microsoft into the Aadhaar system. So if somebody wants to interview anyone and want to make sure that a candidate is a genuine person, then one can do an Aadhaar authentication on Skype."

The trade conference also addressed themes related to defence and energy cooperation. Calling India and the US as natural and highly influential partners, US Consul General Robert Burgess said that he was hoping the cooperation between two nations grow even further.

"Bilateral defence trade has risen from near zero to more than $15 billion in the last decade. We aim for that upward trajectory to continue," he added.

A bilateral US-India IT sector agreement would benefit many sectors: defence, the flow of people, banking, aerospace, science and technology and infrastructure, among others. Addressing the issue of tariffs and regulatory harmonization will benefit trade for both nations.