Digital KYC for new bank accounts will make process secure: UIDAI chief

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 28

The recent amendments to anti-money laundering rules allowing voluntary use of Aadhaar for opening of bank accounts and the modalities of digital KYC for cases where verification is done using other documents like voter ID and driving licence will make the process secure and convenient for users, UIDAI CEO Ajay Bhushan Pandey said on Wednesday.

The government, last week, had notified amendments to the Prevention of Money-Laundering (Maintenance of Records) rules to allow voluntary use of the biometric identifier for opening of bank accounts, and had also spelled out the detailed procedure for ‘digital KYC’ to be performed in case of verification done via documents like voter ID and driving licence.

The notification now paves the way for use of various verification mechanisms—Aadhaar eKYC where Aadhaar documents are given voluntarily, offline verification and Digital KYC (Know Your Customer) for opening bank accounts.

The same procedure will also be applicable for investment in mutual funds and opening of demat accounts.

“Digital KYC has been successful in telecom sector for issuing mobile connections. For bank accounts too, now if someone has paper Aadhaar, voter ID or driving licence, then the person can go for Digital KYC, like in the telecom sector,” Pandey told PTI.

Digital KYC will involve capturing the live photo of the customer and officially valid documents or proof of possession of Aadhaar where offline verification cannot be carried out, along with latitude and longitude of the location where such live photo is being taken by an authorised officer of the bank. A step-by-step procedure has been laid down for performing Digital KYC.