

Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)
Press Statement
30th June 2018

New Delhi: Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) today said that its Virtual ID (VID) system is now operational with its Authentication User Agencies (AUAs) which have migrated to VID and UID Token using Auth API 2.5 and e-KYC API 2.5. Meanwhile, UIDAI has classified its AUAs in Global or Local categories for providing authentication facility for VID through UID Token and Limited KYC.

UIDAI has said that Telecom companies and E-sign provider AUAs not using API 2.5 and e-KYC API 2.5 beyond 30th June 2018 shall be charged Rs. 0.20 for every transaction performed. However, as an incentive to expedite the migration process to VID (via Auth API 2.5), it has also been decided that in case an AUA has fully migrated to APIs 2.5 by 31.07.2018 then the authentication transaction charges imposed for the above said period of 1st to 31st July 2018 shall be waived off.

Also, for all other the AUAs including banks but other than those mentioned above (i.e., telecom operators and E-sign service providers), it has been decided that they shall migrate to VID and UID Token using Auth API 2.5 and e-KYC API 2.5 by 31st August 2018. In case of their failure, UIDAI shall be free to take actions under the Aadhaar Act including imposition of financial disincentives and termination of license key.

CEO, UIDAI Dr. Ajay Bhushan Pandey said, “It has been observed that a number of AUAs have already migrated to production environment using APIs 2.5 for VID implementation and most of the remaining AUAs have tested VID and UID Token in pre-production environment APIs 2.5. We

are requesting with these agencies to fully migrate to production environment by the stipulated date”.

He reiterated that VID is a critical security measure for protecting residents’ privacy and their Aadhaar numbers. With the introduction of Virtual ID, an Aadhaar holder will have an option of not sharing his/her Aadhaar number and can generate a Virtual ID to share with AUAs to perform Aadhaar based authentication.

Dr Pandey explained that the authentication ecosystem varies from AUA to AUA. It is observed that in certain AUAs the authentication is always done in a controlled environment in the presence of their own regular staff while in case of some AUAs the authentication is performed in the presence of their agents who many a time cater to more than one AUA. Sometimes these agents in addition to AUA specific activity are also involved in other business activities. Therefore, “it is imperative that on the basis of level of supervision in authentication ecosystem and the risk assessment, the VID/UID Token associated security features should be implemented in certain category of AUAs sooner without any delay”, he added.

He said that UIDAI is further in the process of review of the classification of Global and Local AUAs based on the security and risk assessment of the authentication process of the AUAs. Pending this review, AUAs which were not classified earlier are now being provisionally classified. Nonetheless, Global AUAs shall develop their application in such a manner that their Aadhaar based services may continue even in case of a change in their classification in future.

Dr. Pandey said that UIDAI, in near future proposes to introduce other forms of Aadhaar data verification and the same may be provided to

AUAs for identity verification in lieu of global or local, as per our review and assessment”. He reminded that all AUAs shall make necessary changes in their Front end client application to accept Aadhaar number as well as Virtual ID and in Backend application to consume the UID Token and Limited KYC data immediately.

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