Telecom Dept to Make Re-verification of Mobile Nos with Aadhaar Easier

UIDAI has tweeted that users can verify mobile numbers through OTP from Dec 1

Clear Connection

GOVT IS LOOKING TO INTRODUCE NEW OPTIONS VIA TELCOS

- One-time password
- Interactive voice response system
- Telcos' apps
- Iris-based authentication
- Home visits for senior citizens and differently-abled

Once done, move will benefit consumers, as they won't have to queue up at telcos' retail counters

Telcos have submitted proposal to DoT and UIDAI, both to jointly approve the processes

UIDAI says after December 1 users can re-verify existing mobile numbers by OTP

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New Delhi: The telecom department expects to finalise steps within a week to make it easier for consumers to re-verify their mobile numbers through Aadhaar without visiting telco retail outlets.

The Department of Telecommunications has held a series of meetings on the issue — the latest one on Friday — where carriers were asked for proposals on the steps that consumers need to follow and these have been shared with the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).

"The process has been suggested to UIDAI and it will now meet with the telecom department to finalise it," a senior official at the department said, adding that representatives of carriers had met DoT officials as well. "The plan is to approve the process within this week," the official added.

A senior executive at a leading carrier said the government wants to implement the process quickly. UIDAI has already told consumers on Twitter that they can verify their mobile numbers through a one-time passcode received on their mobile numbers registered with Aadhaar from December 1.

"It may take us a few days to put the process in place but to make sure it is tested and error-free can take a couple of weeks," he said.

Among the suggestions made by telcos, subscribers will send their Aadhaar and mobile details to a designated number set up for verification. The telco will validate the information with UIDAI and complete the re-verification. For consumers who may be incapacitated or those who cannot use the one-time passcode, telcos have proposed a charge of ₹200 for every home visit, said a senior executive aware of the proposals.