No info leak, Aadhaar data safe, UIDAI reiterates

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New Delhi: The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) on Monday reiterated that Aadhaar data is completely safe and secure. The agency said Aadhaar number is not a secret number and it is to be shared with authorised agencies if one wishes to avail a certain service or benefit of government welfare schemes or other services.

"Aadhaar data is fully safe and secure and there has been no data leak or breach at UIDAI," the authority said in response to a report based on RTI that 210 government websites made Aadhaar information public. "There was no breach or leakage of Aadhaar data from UIDAI database or server...," it said in a statement.

UIDAI said the data was placed in public domain as a measure of proactive disclosure under the RTI Act by the government and institutional websites included beneficiaries' name, address, bank account and other details including Aadhaar number. It was collected from the third party and users for various welfare schemes. The authority said it acted promptly and both UIDAI and ministry of electronics and IT directed the ministries concerned to remove the data from their websites and ensure that such violation does not occur in the future.