F. No. 13043/2/2021-Auth-I HQ
Government of India
Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology
Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)
Authentication and Verification Division

Date: 11 .08.2022

To

All AUA/KUAs

Sub: Advisory regarding strengthening of authentication success rate for biometric authentication transactions regd.

Aadhaar Biometric authentication is being used extensively in authentication ecosystem across the country with Finger Print biometric modality contributing to 98% of total biometric authentications. The Aadhaar authentication thus performed provides the door step convenience to the far-flung rural areas of the country. UIDAI extends the facility of biometric (Fingerprint, Iris and Face) authentication which provides irrepudiable authentication of the resident as per the data available with its CIDR.

2.   In this regard, it is noted that some of the residents are facing issues with success in biometric authentication using Fingerprint modality. In order to avoid a situation of denial of service in such cases, generally manual exception handling mechanisms like maintaining a register etc. are adopted. UIDAI has been requesting AUAs to provide iris modality as well so that those residents who are unable to authenticate with finger print, can also do their biometric authentication. The face authentication modality recently rolled out by UIDAI, further obviates the need for any external device (Fingerprint, Iris devices) and is operable on any general android phone (specifications are available at UIDAI website).

3.   In the backdrop of the above to make the authentication process a 100% biometric one, it is necessary that in addition to fingerprint, residents be provided the option of other biometric modalities i.e., Iris or face authentication, so that in case of fingerprint authentication failure, resident can successfully do biometric authentication. This will bring trust and confidence in the authentication process both on the part of service provider and the resident.

4.   Therefore, as per the Regulation 14(n) of the Aadhaar (Authentication and Offline Verification) Regulations, 2021 it is hereby advised that in addition to fingerprint, one more biometric authentication modality, either iris or face be made available to the resident to ensure 100% biometric authentication. In case any AUA/KUA has not taken permission for the above-mentioned modalities, may please apply to UIDAI at the earliest.

(Sanjeev Yadav)
Director (Auth-1, HQ UIDAI)

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1. All RO, UIDAI