File no. K-11020/44/2012-UIDAI (Auth-I)
Government of India
Unique Identification Authority of India

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CIRCULAR

Reference is invited to this office letter no. K-11020/44/2012-UIDAI (Auth-I) dated 25.01.2017 sent to all Authentication User Agencies (AUAs), Authentication Service Agencies (ASAs) and all STQC certified device providers. It was intimated that all AUAs and ASAs will implement authentication API 2.0 for Aadhaar authentication and the device providers will get their devices certified as Registered Device by 31st May 2017. The specifications for Registered Devices were issued by UIDAI on 22.02.2017 which was followed by STQC guidelines for Registered Devices certification process on 27.02.2017. UIDAI vide its circular no K-11020/44/2012-UIDAI (Auth-I) dated 12.04.2017 also circulated the application form and the undertaking to be given by device providers for obtaining Registered Device certification.

2.   In response to the above mentioned circulars and guidelines, twenty two device providers have applied to STQC for RD service certification. At the same time, Auth API 2.0 specifications have also been communicated to all AUAs and ASAs. During the period of last four months UIDAI and STQC have held a series of workshops and handholding meetings with AUAs, ASAs and device providers at UIDAI HQ as well as at UIDAI Tech Center, Bengaluru.

3.   UIDAI has started issuing RD certification to those device providers who have obtained RD service certification from STQC and have submitted their application to UIDAI. It is noticed that while a number of device providers are in the process of getting Registered Device service certification from STQC, some device providers are not yet ready with their Registered Device service. Similarly, whereas a large number of AUAs and ASAs have successfully tested Auth API 2.0 with certified Registered Device, others are at various stages of development. Further, a number of representations have been received from certain AUAs regarding their logistical

limitations for upgrading all of their existing public devices to Registered Devices by 31st May 2017.

4.   It is to be understood that Registered Device is a critical requirement for enhanced security and privacy in the Aadhaar authentication eco-system. Therefore, it is imperative that all stakeholders viz. AUAs, ASAs and device providers fulfill the necessary requirements in a time bound manner. However, given the status of preparedness of AUAs, ASAs and device providers as per para 3 above, these entities are directed to fulfill the following requirements:

AUA Requirements:

AUAs shall upgrade to Authentication API 2.0, KUAs shall upgrade to eKYC API 2.1 and authentication application to the registered device compliance by 31st May 2017 and in case they are not able to do so the authentication services will be allowed subject to following conditions:

i.   AUAs shall be completely responsibility for ensuring security of the applications if they continue to use existing non-registered devices after 31st May 2017

ii.   AUAs shall complete at least one successful authentication transaction in Pre-production using registered device by 31st July 2017

iii.   AUAs shall pay Rs 0.20 per authentication transaction w.e.f. 1st August 2017 for using existing non-registered devices

iv.   No authentication transactions using existing non-registered devices shall be allowed after 30th September 2017

AUAs using Aadhaar authentication services with existing non-registered devices after 31st May 2017 shall be deemed to have accepted above mentioned conditions.

ASA Requirements:

ASAs must upgrade their system to support registered devices by 31st May 2017 and in case they are not able to do so the authentication services will be allowed subject to following conditions:

i. ASAs shall complete at least one successful authentication transaction in Pre-production using registered device by 30th June 2017

ii. ASAs shall upgrade to support registered device transaction on production by 31st July 2017

iii. ASAs shall pay Rs 0.10 per authentication transaction done with non-registered devices w.e.f 1st August 2017

iv. UIDAI shall recover the transaction charges from ASAs for authentications done with non-registered devices w.e.f. 1st August 2017 with respect to liabilities of both ASA and the AUAs using its services. UIDAI will raise the bill for AUAs to ASAs only and it will be the responsibility of ASAs to collect charges from their AUAs and pay to UIDAI.

v. No authentication transactions using existing non-registered devices shall be allowed after 30th September 2017

ASAs using Aadhaar authentication services with existing non-registered devices after 31st May 2017 shall be deemed to have accepted above mentioned conditions.

Device Provider Requirements:

Device providers shall get their devices certified as registered devices by 31st May 2017 and in case they are not able to do so their device certification will be allowed subject to following conditions:

i. Device providers shall get provisional certification of their devices by 15th July 2017

ii. Provisional certification scheme expires on 15th July 2017 and device providers agree to pay Rs 10,000 per day for any delay thereafter

5. In this regard, attention is invited to Regulations 8(1), 14(d), 14(n) and 19(o) of Aadhaar (Authentication) Regulations, 2016, whereby, device providers, AUAs and ASAs are required to employ only those devices, equipment, or software, which are duly registered with or approved or certified by the Authority and also comply with any contractual terms, regulations, policies, procedures, specifications, standards and directions issued by the Authority, for the purposes of using the authentication

facilities provided by the Authority. Violation of these Regulations constitutes criminal offence under section 42 and 43 of the Aadhaar Act, 2016 punishable with imprisonment and fine.

Therefore, all AUAs, ASAs and device providers are again directed to take necessary action at their end to implement Registered Device services.

(Ajai Chandra)
Assistant Director General