

सौरभ गर्ग
मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी
Saurabh Garg
Chief Executive Officer



भारत सरकार
Government of India
भारतीय विशिष्ट पहचान प्राधिकरण
Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)
आधार मुख्यालय, नौवीं मंजिल, बंगला साहिब रोड,
काली मंदिर के पीछे, गोल मार्केट, नई दिल्ली-110 001
Aadhaar Headquarters, 9th Floor, Bangla Sahib Road,
Behind Kali Mandir, Gole Market, New Delhi-110001

D.O. 15028/1/2022-AU-HQ

17.11.2022

Dear Madam/Sir,

Subject: Dos and Don'ts for agencies seeking offline verification of Aadhaar

Today, Aadhaar has become one the most reliable pieces of identity proof for a resident. The acceptability of Aadhaar has also become ubiquitous, both in the domains of government and private sector user schemes & services.

2. Since the first Aadhaar came into being in Sep, 2010, more than 135 crore Aadhaars have been issued till date. When it comes to putting Aadhaar to use, there are about 177 authentication user agencies registered with UIDAI, including both public and private entities, that carry out more than 6 crores online Aadhaar authentications daily for rendering various user services that require authentication of an individual's identity in real-time and in a non-repudiable way.

3. Apart from online authentication of Aadhaar done by entities registered with UIDAI (called as Requesting Entities-RE), there are also offline means available to verify Aadhaar. Offline verification is the use of Aadhaar for identity verification and carrying out KYC process locally, without sending data to and receiving response from UIDAI online. The organizations desirous of conducting offline verification of an Aadhaar number holder without doing any registration with UIDAI are known as Offline Verification Seeking Entities(OVSE).

4. Offline verification of Aadhaar involves validation of UIDAI's digital signature present either within the secure QR code (displayed on Aadhaar letter, e-Aadhaar, Aadhaar PVC card, m-Aadhaar) containing the resident's Aadhaar data or the paperless offline e-KYC XML file. A resident may voluntarily use the Aadhaar number to establish his/her identity by way of offline verification by an OVSE.

5. While usage of Aadhaar, especially offline usage, has enormously expanded, it has been observed that many a time, the OVSEs (and also REs, in some cases) resort to collection of physical copies of Aadhaar letter or e-Aadhaar and also, without conducting verification (authentication, in case of an RE) of Aadhaar document presented. Some agencies have also been found to have very little awareness about their obligations as enshrined in the Aadhaar Act, 2016 and amendments & regulations thereof. While it is important that offline usage of Aadhaar is promoted in still greater number of areas & use-cases in the country, employing the prescribed ways & means of using Aadhaar is essential to ensure that basic essence & purpose of it is not lost. In the same vein, compliance to the laws/rules/regulations governing usage of Aadhaar cannot be compromised in any way.

6. In this context, a public circular listing out some of the important Dos and Don'ts for Offline Verification Seeking Entities (OVSE) was recently published by UIDAI. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith for your kind reference.

7. It is requested that this circular be widely circulated within all the Organizations/ Institutions/ Authorities/ Corporations/ Other Bodies under your Department.

With regards,

Yours Sincerely,

To,
All Secretaries of Government of India

Saurabh Garg
(Dr. Saurabh Garg)



एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

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मेरा आधार, मेरी पहचान