

Circular No. 82 - NPCI/AePS/2023-24/082

22nd June, 2023

To,

All Members of Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AePS)

Sub: Implementation of Face Authentication as an additional modality in Aadhaar Enabled Payment System

Dear Sir/Madam,

We refer to the UIDAI Circular No.1 dated 3rd June 2022 on launch of face authentication as a new biometric modality in addition to existing fingerprint and IRIS modalities. Further, we also refer to UIDAI Letter no. 13043/2/2021/-Auth-I-HQ dated 11th August, 2022 advising all AUA/KUAs to use face authentication and IRIS modalities so that no resident is denied the services on failure of fingerprint based biometric authentication. *(Copies attached as Annexures 1 & 2)*

Face Authentication modality obviates the need for any external device such as Fingerprint and Iris biometric devices. It is currently operable on any general android device only (OS ver. 7 & above), thus making biometric authentication accessible to a wider audience. For further details, members can refer the specifications issued by UIDAI on face authentication modality.

In view thereof, members are advised to implement face authentication modality as acquirers and issuers at the earliest to support eKYC, ONUS and OFFUS (financial & non-financial) AePS transactions. Members may apply to UIDAI in this regard to enable face authentication modality for testing and implementation.

For more details or any queries, members may reach out to below mentioned NPCI officials or their respective Relationship Mangers (RMs).

Name	Email Id	Contact No.
Nivedita Naik	nivedita.naik@npci.org.in	8657040570
Prasanna Khanolkar	prasanna.khanolkar@npci.org.in	9920701016

Yours Sincerely,

SD/-

Kunal Kalawatia
Chief - Products

सं.के 13028/1/2021/यूआईडीएआई (ऑथ-1)

भारत सरकार
इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स एवं सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय
भारतीय विशिष्ट पहचान प्राधिकरण (यूआईडीएआई)
(अधिप्रमाणन विभाग)

यूआईडीएआई मुख्यालय भवन, तीमरी मंजिल,
बंगला साहेब रोड, काली मंदिर के पीछे,
गोल मार्केट, नई दिल्ली- 110001.

दिनांक: 03.06.2022

Circular 01 of 2022


Subject: Launch of Face Authentication

UIDAI has been extending Finger Print and Iris modalities for biometric authentication of Aadhaar number. UIDAI is pleased to inform that in addition to Finger Print and Iris, UIDAI has introduced a new biometric modality of Face Authentication. This modality has been tested in PoCs and limited roll out in select entities during last few months. Encouraged by the results, the face auth modality has been extended to all AUA/KUA. During this office's interactions with various AUAs over last months, we have been briefing about this new modality.

2. This modality matches the live photo of the resident with the photo available in CIDR of UIDAI as obtained at the time of enrollment or subsequent updation, if any. In present this modality is available on android OS only and requisite device specification are attached in annexure.

3. Face authentication modality can be utilized by the requesting AUA/KUA in single/multi factor based on nature of transaction performed with authentication. The AUAs desirous of availing this modality may send such request to UIDAI. However before moving in Pre-Production, AUA/KUA will have to submit IS audit of Face Authentication application conducted by CERT-IN empanelled auditor.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.


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

To,
All AUA/KUAs

Copy for information to:
Sh Anup Kumar, DDG (Tech Centre, UIDAI)
DDGs ROs, UIDAI

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 irrefutable 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)

Copy for information to:

1. All RO, UIDAI