

**F.No. HQ-13079/55/2021-AUTH-II (E-6074)/3230**

**Government of India**

**Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology**

**Unique Identification Authority of India**

**(Authentication and Verification Division)**

3rd Floor, Bangla Sahib Road,  
UIDAI Hqrs, Near Kali Mata Mandir,  
New Delhi- 110 001

Dated: 11.08.2022

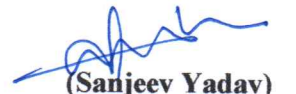
**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**Sub:- Optional use of Virtual Identifier (VID) for delivery of services by Government departments under Section 7 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 (as amended) - reg.**

UIDAI extends the facility of Virtual Identifier to the residents, which is an interchangeable 16 digit random number mapped to an Aadhaar number of the Aadhaar number holder, to give a sense of security as well as privacy to the concerned Aadhaar number holder. Regulation 4A(3) of the Aadhaar (Authentication and Offline Verification) Regulations, 2021 (as amended) {**Regulations**} provides that “*the Aadhaar number holder may use VID in lieu of Aadhaar number for online authentication or e-KYC*”. Further, Regulation 14(cb) of the said Regulations provides that “*a requesting entity shall ensure that the provision of authentication using Virtual ID is provided*”.

2. However, some government entities may require the Aadhaar number in their respective databases for smooth implementation of the social welfare schemes. Therefore, such government entities may require beneficiaries to provide Aadhaar numbers and may make VID optional.

3. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

  
**(Sanjeev Yadav)**  
**Director**

To,

- (i) **The Ministries/ Departments of Govt. of India**
- (ii) **The Chief Secretaries of States**

**Copy to: For information**

- (i) **The Secretary,  
Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology,  
Govt. of India.**
- (ii) **Joint Secretary (DBT Mission),  
Cabinet Secretariat, Govt. of India.**