



NORTH EAST SMALL FINANCE BANK LIMITED
(A Scheduled Commercial Bank)

Head Office: 1st & 3rd Floor, Fortune Central, Basistha Road, Basisthapur
Bye Lane No.3, Beltola, Guwahati Kamrup, Assam, India, 781028
Website: www.nesfb.com

Privacy Policy for Protection of Personal data of Aadhaar Number Holders by AUA/KUA

Effective Date	3 rd June 2024
Approver	CTO and MD & CEO
Approved on	1 st June 2024
Policy Owner	Manager – IS Compliance
Review frequency	Annual



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Version History

Revision	Date	Reviewed By	Approved By	Description	Approved Date
1.0	28th May 2024	Manager – IS Compliance	CTO and MD & CEO	Privacy Policy for Protection of Personal data of Aadhaar Number Holders by AUA/KUA	



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1. Terms and Definitions

This policy document outlines the compliance measures to be followed by North East Small Finance (hereinafter referred to as "**Bank**"). Throughout this document, the terms "**Bank**" and "**NESFB**" are used interchangeably.

- a) "Aadhaar number" means an identification number issued to an individual under sub-section (3) of section 3, and includes any alternative virtual identity generated under sub-section (4) of that section.
- b) "Aadhaar Data Vault" (ADV) means a separate secure database/vault/system where NESFB mandatorily stores Aadhaar numbers and any connected data such that it will be the only place where the said data will be stored.
- c) "Anonymization" in relation to personal data, means such irreversible process of transforming or converting personal data to a form in which an individual cannot be identified, which meets the standards of irreversibility.
- d) "Authentication" means the process by which the Aadhaar number along with demographic information or biometric information of an individual is submitted to the Central Identities Data Repository for its verification and such Repository verifies the correctness, or the lack thereof, on the basis of information available with it.
- e) "Authentication Service Agency" or "ASA" shall mean an entity providing necessary infrastructure for ensuring secure network connectivity and related services for enabling NESFB to perform authentication using the authentication facility provided by the Authority.
- f) "Authentication User Agency" or "AUA" means NESFB that uses the Yes/No authentication facility provided by the Authority.
- g) "Authority" means the Unique Identification Authority of India established under sub-section (1) of section 11 of the Aadhaar Act.



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- h) “Biometric information” means photograph, fingerprint, iris scan, or such other biological attributes of an individual as may be specified by regulations.
- i) “Central Identities Data Repository” (CIDR) means a centralised database in one or more locations containing all Aadhaar numbers issued to Aadhaar number holders along with the corresponding demographic information and biometric information of such individuals and other information related thereto.
- j) “Consent” means the consent referred to in section 11 of the Personal Data Protection Bill 2019.
- k) “De-identification” means the process by which a data fiduciary or data processor may remove, or mask identifiers from personal data, or replace them with such other fictitious name or code that is unique to an individual but does not, on its own, directly identify the data principal.
- l) “Demographic information” includes information relating to the name, date of birth, address and other relevant information of an individual, as may be specified by regulations for the purpose of issuing an Aadhaar number, but shall not include race, religion, caste, tribe, ethnicity, language, records of entitlement, income or medical history.
- m) “e-KYC User Agency” or “KUA” shall mean NESFB which, in addition to being an AUA, uses e-KYC authentication facility provided by the Authority.
- n) “Global AUAs” means the agencies which will have access to full e-KYC (with Aadhaar number) and the ability to store Aadhaar number within their system.
- o) “Local AUAs” means the agencies which will only have access to Limited KYC and will not be allowed to store Aadhaar number within their systems.
- p) “Hardware Security Module (HSM)” means a device that will store the keys used for digital signing of Auth XML and decryption of e-KYC response data received from UIDAI.
- q) “Identity information” in respect of an individual, includes his Aadhaar number, his biometric information and his demographic information.



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r) "Limited KYC" means the service that does not return Aadhaar number and only provides an agency specific unique UID Token along with other demographic fields that are shared with the Local AUAs depending upon its need.

s) "PID Block" means the Personal Identity Data element which includes necessary demographic and/or biometric and/or OTP collected from the Aadhaar number holder during authentication.

t) "Personal data" means data about or relating to a natural person who is directly or indirectly identifiable, having regard to any characteristic, trait, attribute or any other feature of the identity of such natural person, whether online or offline, or any combination of such features with any other information, and shall include any inference drawn from such data for the purpose of profiling.

u) "Personnel" means all the employees, staff and other individuals employed/contracted by NESFB.

v) "Processing" in relation to personal data, means an operation or set of operations performed on personal data, and may include operations such as collection, recording, organisation, structuring, storage, adaptation, alteration, retrieval, use, alignment or combination, indexing, disclosure by transmission, dissemination or otherwise making available, restriction, erasure or destruction.

w) "Reference Key" means an additional key which is mapped with each Aadhaar number stored in the Aadhaar data vault.

x) "Requesting Entity" means NESFB that submits the Aadhaar number, and demographic information or biometric information, of an individual to the Central Identities Data Repository for authentication.

y) "Resident" means an individual who has resided in India for a period or periods amounting in all to one hundred and eighty-two days or more in the twelve months immediately preceding the date of application for enrolment.



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z) “Sensitive personal data or information” means such personal information which consists of information relating to:

- i. password;
- ii. financial information such as Bank account or credit card or debit card or other payment instrument details;
- iii. physical, physiological and mental health condition;
- iv. sexual orientation;
- v. medical records and history;
- vi. Biometric information;
- vii. any detail relating to the above clauses as provided to body corporate for providing service; and
- viii. any of the information received under above clauses by body corporate for processing, stored or processed under lawful contract or otherwise;

aa) “UID Token” means a 72-character alphanumeric string returned by UIDAI in response to the authentication and Limited KYC request. It will be unique for each Aadhaar number for a particular entity (AUA/Sub-AUA) and will remain the same for an Aadhaar number for all authentication requests by that particular entity.

bb) “Virtual ID (VID)” means any alternative virtual identity issued as an alternative to the actual Aadhaar number of an individual that shall be generated by the Authority in such manner as may be specified by regulations.



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2. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction to the various stakeholders and responsible personnel within NESFB to protect the personal data of Aadhaar number holders in compliance with relevant laws.

3. Personal Data Collection

NESFB shall collect the personal data including Aadhaar number/Virtual ID, directly from the Aadhaar number holder for conducting authentication with UIDAI at the time of providing the services.

4. Specific Purpose for Collection of Personal Data

- a) The Identity information including Aadhaar number / Virtual ID shall be collected for the purpose of authentication of Aadhaar number holder to provide specific services such as e-KYC for account opening.
- b) The identity information collected and processed shall only be used pursuant to applicable law and as permitted under the Aadhaar Act 2016 or its Amendment and Regulations.
- c) The identity information shall not be used beyond the mentioned purpose without consent from the Aadhaar number holder and even with consent use of such information for other purposes should be under the permissible purposes in compliance with the Aadhaar Act 2016.
- d) Process shall be implemented to ensure that Identity information is not used beyond the purposes mentioned in the notice/consent form provided to the Aadhaar number holder.

5. Notice / Disclosure of Information to Aadhaar Number Holder

- a) Aadhaar number holder shall be provided relevant information prior to the collection of identity information / personal data. These shall include:

- The purpose for which personal data / identity information is being collected;



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- The information that shall be returned by UIDAI upon authentication;
- The information that the submission of Aadhaar number or the proof of Aadhaar is mandatory or voluntary for the specified purpose and if mandatory the legal provision mandating it;
- The alternatives to submission of identity information (if applicable);
- Details of Section 7 notification (if applicable) by the respective department under the Aadhaar Act, 2016, which makes submission of Aadhaar number as a mandatory or necessary condition to receive subsidy, benefit, or services where the expenditure is incurred from the Consolidated Fund of India or Consolidated Fund of State. Alternate and viable means of identification for delivery of the subsidy, benefit, or service may be provided if an Aadhaar number is not assigned to an individual;
- The information that Virtual ID can be used in lieu of an Aadhaar number at the time of Authentication;
- The name and address of NESFB collecting and processing the personal data;

b) Aadhaar number holder shall be notified of the authentication either through the e-mail or phone or SMS at the time of authentication and NESFB shall maintain logs of the same.

6. Obtaining Consent

a) Upon notice/disclosure of information to the Aadhaar number holder, consent shall be taken in writing or in electronic form on the website or mobile application or other appropriate means and NESFB shall maintain logs of disclosure of information and the Aadhaar number holder's consent.

b) The legal department shall be involved in vetting the method of obtaining consent and logging of the same, and formal approval shall be recorded from the legal department.

7. Processing of Personal Data

a) The identity information, including the Aadhaar number, and biometric/demographic information collected from the Aadhaar number holder by NESFB shall only be used for the Aadhaar authentication process by submitting it to the Central Identities Data Repository (CIDR).



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b) Aadhaar authentication or Aadhaar e-KYC shall be used for the specific purposes declared to UIDAI and permitted by UIDAI. Such specific purposes shall be notified to the residents/customers/individuals at the time of authentication through disclosure of information notice.

c) NESFB shall not use the Identity information including Aadhaar number or e-KYC for any other purposes than allowed under applicable law and informed to the resident/customers/individuals at the time of Authentication.

d) For the purpose of e-KYC, the demographic details of the individual received from UIDAI as a response shall be used for identification of the individual for the specific purposes of providing the specific services for the duration of the services.

8. Retention of Personal Data

a) The authentication transaction logs shall be stored for a period of two years subsequent to which the logs shall be archived for a period of five years or as per the regulations governing the entity, whichever is later and upon expiry of which period, barring the authentication transaction logs required to be maintained by a court order or pending dispute, the authentication transaction logs shall be deleted.

9. Sharing of Personal Data

a) Identity information shall not be shared in contravention to the Aadhaar Act 2016, its Amendment, Regulations and other circulars released by UIDAI from time to time.

b) Biometric information collected shall not be transmitted over any network without creation of encrypted PID block as per Aadhaar Act and regulations.

c) NESFB shall not require an individual to transmit the Aadhaar number over the Internet unless such transmission is secure and the Aadhaar number is transmitted in encrypted form except where transmission is required for correction of errors or redressal of grievances.



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10. Data Security

- a) The Aadhaar number shall be collected over a secure application, transmitted over a secure channel as per specifications of UIDAI and the identity information returned by UIDAI shall be stored securely.
- b) The biometric information shall be collected, if applicable, using the registered devices specified by UIDAI. These devices encrypt the biometric information at the device level and the application sends the same over a secure channel to UIDAI for authentication.
- c) OTP information shall be collected in a secure application and encrypted on the client device before transmitting it over a secure channel as per UIDAI specifications.
- d) Aadhaar/VID number that are submitted by the resident/customer/individual to NESFB and PID block hence created shall not be retained under any event and entity shall retain the parameters received in response from UIDAI.
- e) e-KYC information shall be stored in an encrypted form only. Such encryption shall match UIDAI encryption standards and follow the latest industry best practice.
- f) NESFB (if classified as Local AUAs) shall not store Aadhaar numbers of the customers/individuals/residents to maintain their privacy and security.
- g) NESFB (if classified as Global AUAs and KUAs) shall, as mandated by law, encrypt and store the Aadhaar numbers and any connected data only on the secure Aadhaar Data Vault (ADV) in compliance with the Aadhaar data vault circular issued by UIDAI.
- h) The keys used to digitally sign the authentication request and for encryption of Aadhaar numbers in Data vault shall be stored only in HSMs in compliance with the HSM and Aadhaar Data vault circulars.
- i) NESFB shall use only Standardisation Testing and Quality Certification (STQC)/UIDAI certified biometric devices for Aadhaar authentication (if biometric authentication is used).



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j) All applications used for Aadhaar authentication or e-KYC shall be tested for compliance with Aadhaar Act 2016 before being deployed in production and after every change that impacts the processing of Identity information. The applications shall be audited on an annual basis by information systems auditor(s) certified by STQC, CERT-IN, or any other UIDAI recognized body.

k) In the event of an identity information breach, NESFB shall notify UIDAI of the following:

- A description and the consequences of the breach;
- A description of the number of Aadhaar number holders affected and the number of records affected;
- The privacy officer's contact details;
- Measures taken to mitigate the identity information breach;

l) Appropriate security and confidentiality obligations shall be implemented in the non-disclosure agreements (NDAs) with employees/contractual agencies/consultants/advisors and other personnel handling identity information.

m) Only authorized individuals shall be allowed to access authentication application, audit logs, authentication servers, application, source code, and information security infrastructure. An access control list shall be maintained and regularly updated by NESFB.

n) Best practices in data privacy and data protection based on international standards shall be adopted.

o) The response received from CIDR in the form of authentication transaction logs shall be stored with the following details:

- The Aadhaar number against which authentication is sought. In the case of Local AUAs where Aadhaar number is not returned by UIDAI and storage is not permitted, the respective UID token shall be stored in place of Aadhaar number;
- Specified parameters received as authentication response;



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- The record of disclosure of information to the Aadhaar number holder at the time of authentication;
- Record of consent of the Aadhaar number holder for authentication but shall not, in any event, retain the PID information.

p) An Information Security policy in line with ISO27001 standard, UIDAI specific Information Security policy, and Aadhaar Act 2016 shall be formulated to ensure the security of identity information.

q) Aadhaar numbers shall only be stored in Aadhaar Data vault as per the specifications provided by UIDAI.

11. Rights of the Aadhaar Number Holder

a) The Aadhaar number holder has the right to obtain and request the update of identity information stored with NESFB, including authentication logs. The collection of core biometric information, storage, and further sharing is protected by Section 29 of the Aadhaar Act 2016, hence the Aadhaar number holder cannot request the core biometric information.

b) NESFB shall provide a process for the Aadhaar number holder to view their identity information stored and request subsequent updation after authenticating the identity of the Aadhaar number holder. In case the update is required from UIDAI, the same shall be informed to the Aadhaar number holder.

c) The Aadhaar number holder may, at any time, revoke consent given to NESFB for storing his e-KYC data, and upon such revocation, NESFB shall delete the e-KYC data in a verifiable manner and provide an acknowledgement of the same to the Aadhaar number holder.

d) The Aadhaar number holder has the right to lodge a complaint with the privacy officer who is responsible for monitoring of the identity information processing activities so that the processing is not in contravention of the law.



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12. Aadhaar Number Holder Access Request

- a) A process shall be formulated to handle the queries and process the exercise of rights of Aadhaar number holders with respect to their identity information/personal data. As part of the process, it shall be mandatory to authenticate the identity of the Aadhaar number holder before providing access to any identity information.
- b) All requests from the Aadhaar number holder shall be formally recorded and responded to within a reasonable period.

13. Privacy by Design

- a) Processes shall be established to embed privacy aspects at the design stage of any new systems, products, processes, and technologies involving data processing of identity information of Aadhaar number holders.
- b) NESFB, in possession of the Aadhaar number of Aadhaar number holders, shall not make public any database or records of the Aadhaar numbers unless the Aadhaar numbers have been redacted or blacked out through appropriate means, both in print and electronic form.
- c) Before going live with any new process that involves the processing of identity information, NESFB shall ensure that Disclosure of Information/Privacy notice in compliance with the Aadhaar Act 2016 is provided to the resident/customer/individual and that consent is taken and recorded in compliance with Aadhaar Act 2016.
- d) Quarterly self-assessments shall be conducted to ensure compliance with disclosure of information and consent requirements.
- e) Privacy-enhancing organizational and technical measures like anonymization, de-identification, and minimization shall be implemented to make the collection of identity information adequate, relevant, and limited to the purpose of processing.

14. Governance and Accountability Obligations



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- a) A Privacy committee shall be established to provide strategic direction on privacy matters.
- b) A person (Privacy Officer) responsible for developing, implementing, maintaining, and monitoring the comprehensive, organization-wide governance and accountability shall be designated to ensure compliance with the applicable laws.
- c) The name of the Privacy Officer and contact details shall be made available to UIDAI and other external agencies through appropriate channels.
- d) The Privacy Officer shall be responsible for assessing privacy risks of processing identity information/personal data and mitigating the risks.
- e) The Privacy Officer shall be independent and shall be involved in all the issues relating to the processing of identity information.
- f) The Privacy Officer shall be an expert in data protection and privacy legislations, regulations, and best practices.
- g) The Privacy Officer shall advise the top management on the privacy obligations.
- h) The Privacy Officer shall advise on high-risk processing and the requirement of data privacy impact assessments.
- i) The Privacy Officer shall act as a point of contact for UIDAI for coordination and implementation of privacy practices and other external agencies for any queries.
- j) The Privacy Officer shall be responsible for managing privacy incidents and responding to the same.
- k) The Privacy Officer shall also be responsible for putting in place measures to create awareness and training of staff involved in processing identity information about the legal consequences of data breaches to the reputation of the organization.



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l) The Privacy Officer shall ensure that the authentication operations, systems, and applications are audited by CERT-IN (Indian Computer Emergency Response Team), Standardisation Testing and Quality Certification (STQC) empanelled auditors, or any other UIDAI recognized body at least on an annual basis.

m) The Privacy Officer shall conduct internal audits (through an internal audit team) on a quarterly basis and monitor compliance through these audits against Aadhaar Act 2016.

n) The Privacy Officer shall ensure that the front-end operators interacting with Aadhaar number holders are trained on a periodic basis to ensure they communicate the disclosure of information to the Aadhaar number holder, take consent appropriately after showing the screen to the Aadhaar number holder, and ensure the security of identity information. Such training shall be documented for audit purposes.

o) Aadhaar-specific training to developers, systems admins, and other users shall be provided to ensure they are aware of the obligations for their respective roles. Completion of such training shall be documented.

p) The Privacy Officer shall be responsible for formally communicating this policy to all stakeholders and staff who need to comply with this policy. Any changes to the policy shall be communicated immediately.

q) The Privacy Officer shall facilitate formal Privacy performance reviews with the relevant stakeholders/Privacy Committee and suggest improvements. The reviews shall consider the results of various audits, privacy incidents, privacy initiatives, UIDAI requirements, etc.

15. Transfer of Identity Information Outside India is Prohibited

a) Identity information shall not be hosted or transferred outside the territory of India in compliance with the Aadhaar Act and its Regulations.



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16. Grievance Redressal Mechanism

- a) Aadhaar number holders with grievances about the processing can contact the NESFB's CISO/Privacy Officer via multiple channels like on the website, through phone, SMS, mobile application, etc.
- b) Reasonable measures shall be taken to inform the residents/customers/individuals about the CISO/Privacy Officer and their contact details.
- c) The contact details of the Privacy Officer and the format for filing the complaint shall be displayed on the NESFB's website and other such mediums that are commonly used for interaction with the residents/customers/individuals.
- d) Where the medium of interaction is not electronic (such as physical), Poster/Notice board that is prominently visible shall be used to display the name of the Privacy Officer and contact details.
- e) If any issue is not resolved through consultation with the management of NESFB, Aadhaar number holders can seek redressal by way of mechanisms as specified in Section 33B of the Aadhaar Act, 2016.

17. Responsibility for Implementation and Enforcement of the Policy

- a) The overall responsibility of monitoring and enforcement of this policy through various mechanisms such as audits, etc., shall be with the CISO of NESFB.
- b) The responsibility of the implementation of controls of this policy shall be with CISO of NESFB..
- c) The responsibility of review of Disclosure of Information notice, consent clause, method of consent, logging of consent, etc., shall be with the Legal team of NESFB.



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18. Relevant Provisions of Aadhaar Act and Supreme Court Judgement

a) The following relevant documents shall be referred to for ensuring compliance with the Aadhaar requirements:

- Judgement of the Honorable Supreme Court dated September 2018
- Aadhaar Act 2016
- Aadhaar and Other Laws (Amendment) Act 2019
- Aadhaar (Authentication) Regulations 2016
- Aadhaar (Data Security) Regulations 2016
- Aadhaar (Sharing of Information) Regulations 2016
- Any other regulations or notices or circulars issued by UIDAI from time to time

19. Contact Details

- Name of Privacy Officer: Rohith S
- Phone: 7846063631
- Email: rohith.s@nesfb.com

Abbreviations:

Abbreviation	Description
ADV	Aadhaar Data Vault
ASA	Authentication Service Agency



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AUA	Authentication User Agency
CERT-In	Indian Computer Emergency Response Team
CIDR	Central Identities Data Repository
e-KYC	Electronic Know Your Customer
e-Mail	Electronic Mail
HSM	Hardware Security Module
KUA	e-KYC User Agency
NDA	Non-Disclosure Agreement
OTP	One-Time Password
PID	Personal Identity Data
SMS	Short Message Service
STQC	Standardisation Testing and Quality Certification



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UIDAI	Unique Identification Authority of India
UID Token	Unique ID Token
VID	Virtual ID