DEMYSTIFYING AADHAR AUTHENTICATION IN GST

CMA Bhogavalli Mallikarjuna Gupta
GST & Management Consultant

A fter the unlock has happened, we could see the green shoots in the economy, and the GST collections have touched the highest mark after the rollout of GST during December 2020. Simultaneously, the department has started enforcement and weeding out the black sheep from the system. As a part of the weeding out the black sheep, the registration process is being ratified to punish the errant taxpayers. As part of this, when the user logs on the GST portal, a pop up is being shown, and it asks for Aadhar Authentication. This facility is enabled on the GST portal from 6th January 2021 and the process of Aadhar Authentication. If Aadhar is not available, then the required persons can upload any of the specified documents.

1. **Is it mandatory for every authorized signatory, promoter or partner, or director to do Aadhar Authentication?**
   No, it is not mandatory for every authorized signatory, promoter or partner, or director to do Aadhar Authentication.

2. **In the case of the proprietor, who should take up Aadhar Authentication?**
   Proprietor & authorized signatory have to complete Aadhar Authentication.

3. **In the partnership firm / Limited Liability Partnership firm, is it required to do Aadhar Authentication for all the partners?**
   Anyone partner and authorized signatory have to complete Aadhar Authentication.

4. **In the case of Hindu Undivided Family (HUF), is it required to do Aadhar Authentication for all HUF members?**
   Karta and authorized signatory have to complete Aadhar Authentication.

5. **In the case of Companies (Private, Public & Unlimited), is it required to do Aadhar Authentication for all the Directors?**
   Anyone director and authorized signatory have to complete Aadhar Authentication.

6. **In the case of Society/Club/Trust/Association of Person, is it required to do Aadhar Authentication for all the Management Committee Members?**
   Any Management Committee Member and authorized signatory have to complete Aadhar Authentication.

7. **Is any class of taxpayers exempted from completing Aadhar Authentication?**
   Aadhar Authentication is not required for the following class of taxpayers
   * Government Department
   * Public Sector Undertaking
   * Local Authority
   * Statutory Body

8. **How do I need to complete Aadhar Authentication?**
   From January 6th, 2021, when the taxpayers log into the GST portal, a pop for Aadhar Authentication is being shown. It provides two options for the users, one to do the Authentication by navigating to the profile page, and the other is doing at a later period.

Aadhaar Authentication facility is available.Would you like to authenticate Aadhaar of Partner/Promoter and Primary Authorized Signatory?

<div style="text-align:center">

YES, NAVIGATE TO MY PROFILE   **REMIND ME LATER**

</div>

NOTE : For future reference you can access this link again through Dashboard>My Profile>Aadhaar Authentication Status

9. **What is the navigation path if I want to authenticate the Aadhar?**
   Users can navigate from the following path after logging in - For future reference, you can access this link again through Dashboard>My Profile>Aadhaar Authentication Status

10. **What will I see if I click on "Yes, Navigate To My Profile" or go to my profile for Aadhar Authentication?**
    Once the user goes to the profile section or clicks on "Yes, Navigate To My Profile," it will ask for two options
    i)   Send Aadhar Authentication Link
    ii)   Upload -eKYC documents.
    iii)

Would you like to Authenticate Aadhaar or Upload E-KYC Documents of Partner/Promoter and Primary Authorized Signatory?

<div style="text-align:center">

SEND AADHAAR AUTHENTICATION LINK   **UPLOAD E-KYC DOCUMENTS**

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11. **What will happen when the user clicks on "Send Aadhar Authentication Link"?**
    Once the user clicks on the "Send Aadhar Authentication Link," a link will be sent to the ed on GST registered mobile number and e-mail IDs of the Promoters/ Partners and Authorized Signatories. The link will be valid for valid only 15 days.

DO YOUR E-KYC

GSTIN / TRN	
Legal Name of the Business	
Name of the Primary Authorized Signatory	
Your Name given in the Registration Application	

☑ Consent for Authentication : I, the holder of Aadhaar number to be mentioned below, hereby give my consent to Goods and Service Tax Network (GSTN) to obtain my Aadhaar number and Name for authentication with UIDAI. GSTN has informed me that my identity information would only be used for GST registration purpose as per Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017 and also informed that details will not be shared and will be submitted to Central Identities Data Repository (CIDR) only for the purpose of authentication. 🔊

☐ प्रमाणीकरण के लिए सहमति: मैं, आधार संख्या के प्रमाणीकरण के लिए UIDAI से मेरा नाम तथा विवरण प्राप्त करने हेतु "Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN)" को सहमति देता हूं। GSTN ने मुझे सूचित किया है, कि मेरी पहचान की जानकारी का उपयोग Central Goods and Service Tax Act, 2017 के अंतर्गत विहित जीएसटी पंजीकरण में किया जायेगा तथा इसे साझा नहीं किया जाएगा किन्तु आधार प्रमाणीकरण के उद्देश्य हेतु Central Identities Data Repository (CIDR) को भेजा जाएगा। 🔊

◉ VID   ○ Aadhaar Number

Enter VID*   [Enter VID]   **VALIDATE VID**

12. **Where do I need to enter the Aadhar Number?**
    Once the taxpayer clicks on the link, it will take the taxpayer to a page where he has to enter the Aadhar Number and click on the Button "Validate Aadhar Number." Once the taxpayer clicks on this button, OTP is sent to the registered mobile number and email id.

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○ VID   ◉ Aadhaar Number

Enter Aadhaar Number*   XXXXXXXXXXX   **VALIDATE AADHAAR NUMBER**

OTP Sent Successfully!!

Enter OTP*   ••••••   **VALIDATE OTP**

13. Will I receive the same OTP on my registered mobile and email id?
Yes, you will receive a common OTP.

14. What is the second option, "Upload e-KYC Documents?
This option is provided to taxpayers if they do not have an Aadhar card or their Aadhar card is not linked to the existing mobile number for any other reason. Such taxpayers can upload any of the following documents given in the list.

15. What are the documents I can upload?
The taxpayer can upload any one of the following documents
   a) Aadhar enrollment number
   b) Passport
   c) Voter ID Card
   d) KYC Form
   e) Certificate issued by Competent Authority
   f) Others.

16. What will happen when the taxpayer has uploaded e-KYC documents?
Once the taxpayer uploads the documents, ARN will be generated, and the same will be shown in the jurisdictional tax officer's queue. The tax officer has an option to approve or reject the uploaded documents.

17. What will happen when the tax officer approves the same?
Once the tax officer approves the same, the pop for Aadhar Authentication or Uploading of e-KYC documents will not be shown. It will be considered e-KYC authenticated.

18. What will happen when the tax officer rejects the same?
If the tax office rejects the uploaded documents for any reason, the taxpayer has to follow the same process for submission of the documents again.

19. Wil, I see the pop message for Aadhar Authentication or e-KYC authentication if the application is approved by the tax officer when I log into the portal?
Once it is approved, the taxpayer will not see the pop message when he logs into the portal.

Off late, we are seeing the news article on the day in and day out the fake invoicing and availing input tax credit fraudulently. To plug these things, the Government has introduced matching for availing input tax credit, e-invoicing to track the transactions on a real near-time basis. At the time of obtaining registration, Aadhar authentication is optional, and if they opt for authentication, physical verification of the premises is not being carried out. Now the same is being extended to the existing taxpayers to weed out the errant taxpayers.

Validation of the proprietor or partner or directors of the company will help the department to identify fictitious establishments and curb tax evasion. Though it is a tedious process, it is required to weed out the black sheep. Once weeding out the errant taxpayers is carried out, the GST collections will improve and minimize tax evasion. This can lead to the reduction of tax rates and improve the Tax GDP ratio of the country.