



सत्यमेव जयते

RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
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Member of Standing Committee on Finance
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Vice Chairman, National Military Memorial Management Trust, Bangalore

13 March, 2014

Dear Thiru Chidambaram,

I am in receipt of the letter from Shri Anurag Jain, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance, dated 11 March, 2014, enclosing a copy of the response from Shri Vijay Chugh, Chief General Manager, RBI dated 08 January, 2014 (copy enclosed) - in response to my letter to you dated 20 September, 2013. Thank you for the same.

1. Firstly, I would like to inform you that the response from RBI dated 08 January, 2014 and the interim response from the RBI Governor dated 17 October, 2013 (mentioned in the RBI response dated 08 January, 2014), was only received yesterday by my office.
2. Secondly, with reference to Point No. 4 of Shri Chugh's letter dated 08 January, 2014, it seems that the basic contention of the RBI in using Aadhaar-based biometric authentication for ATMs is the assumption that such authentication will provide "enhanced security in transactions".

I would like to seek from the RBI, the study / due diligence that has been conducted by the RBI to come to this conclusion of enhanced security arising from Aadhaar. This is important because there is information in the public domain about the weaknesses in Aadhaar's verification processes, reports of large number of fake applications that have been seized by the police in various jurisdictions, and therefore, question marks about the integrity of the Aadhaar database.



These naturally should lead to specific questions about authenticity and security. So, it follows that it would be enlightening for me and those in the public policy space, to understand the extent of the due diligence conducted by the RBI before it came to the conclusion of "enhanced security in transactions" being enabled using Aadhaar, and directing Banks to use the same.

I look forward to your early response on this matter.

Yours Sincerely,

RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR

Thiru P. Chidambaram
Hon'ble Minister of Finance
Government of India
New Delhi

Encl. : Copy of letter received from Shri Anurag Jain, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance dated 11 March, 2014