



story is from August 26, 2017

WikiLeaks hints at CIA access to Aadhaar data, officials deny it

Chitra (<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/toireporter/author-Rachel-Chitra-479243371.cms>) | TNN | Updated: Aug 26, 2017, 20:29 IST (</articleshowprint/60228184.cms>)



HIGHLIGHTS

The reports claimed to “expose” cyber spying that may have comprised Aadhaar data

WikiLeaks tweeted on Friday: "Have CIA spies already stolen #India's national ID card database?"

A few minutes later, it tweeted: "Has the CIA already stolen India's #Aadhaar database?"

photo used for representation

NNAI: [WikiLeaks \(http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/wikileaks\)](http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/wikileaks) published reports on Thursday that claimed to “expose” that [CIA \(https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/cia\)](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/cia) is using tools devised by US-based technology provider [Cross Match Technologies \(https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/Cross-Match-Technologies\)](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/Cross-Match-Technologies) for cyber spying that may have comprised [Aadhaar \(https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/Aadhaar-\)](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/Aadhaar) data. The claim was dismissed by official sources in India.

s Match Technologies also provides biometric solutions to the Unique Identification Authority of India, the statutory body for Aadhaar, leading to claims of possible data leakage.

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ing to an article on Cross Match's Indian operations with its partner Smart Identity Devices Pvt Ltd — which has enrolled 1.2 million Indian citizens on the Aadhaar database, WikiLeaks tweeted on Friday: "Have CIA s already stolen #India's national ID card database?" A few minutes later, it tweeted: "Has the CIA already stolen India's #Aadhaar database?" linking to geopolitical magazine Great Game India's online article.

When contacted, official sources said the report was not a WikiLeaks “leak” but a report by a website. Cross Match is a global supplier of devices used for biometric data capture. But the data collected cannot reach the company or any other entity as vendors collect data in an encrypted form that is transferred to Aadhaar servers. “The reports do not have any basis in fact. Aadhaar data is safely encrypted and is not accessible to any government agency,” said official sources.

OTS (Office of Technical Services), a branch within the CIA, has a biometric collection system that is provided to liaison services around the world — with the expectation for sharing of the biometric takes collected on target. But this biometric information does not end up in a central database, officially, at the CIA. However, FROTH is an information collection tool that is used by the CIA to gather fill-in data.

systems. But this 'voluntary sharing' obviously does not work or is considered insufficient by the CIA, because ExpressLane is a covert information collection tool that is used by the CIA to secretly infiltrate data
actions from such systems provided to liaison services," said WikiLeaks on its website.
(<http://thisstoryin-gujarati.blogspot.in/2014/07/iamgujarat.com/latest-news/india-news/wikileaks-says-it-may-seems-cia-access-aadhaar-database-news-in-gujarati-88251/>)

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