

ABSTRACT

RIGHT TO PRIVACY IN INDIA: DATA PROTECTION

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We live in a world where almost every business is run with the help of analysing personal information including bank details, contact information, medical history and several other information based upon the form of business. These personal information are highly valuable and sensitive for an individual and holds the potential of causing serious harm in their lives. The issue arises when such sensitive information is misused by the data fiduciaries or hacked into by people/organisations with a malicious intent. Due to its significance in every citizen's life and the role it plays in building the efficiency of business practices, the government has to take the appropriate measures to regulate the activity of transferring and processing personal data by laying down legislative measures and following a consultative process.

There have been numerous cases of major data breach in the past decade itself, which turned out to be even more shocking when big companies like Adobe, Yahoo and Facebook were the ones found to be responsible for such abuse of personal data of their customers. In order to mitigate the future loss going to be suffered by the citizens due to data breach, several countries took immediate measures to bring all the activities pertaining to data processing and data protection under its ambit of surveillance. India also decided to form a Joint Parliamentary Committee to determine the best possible solution appropriate to the prevalent situation of the country and they proposed the PDP Bill of 2019 which has many helpful aspects along with a few drawbacks that have been discussed in this paper in order to suggest productive recommendations for the proposed Bill.

Cost-effectiveness is a factor that is going to act as a major help for a developing country like India with a majority of its business industry constituting of small and medium scale companies. The government can definitely bring a massive change in India's present data protection system through the PDP Bill, only if they bring the required changes in the Bill and implement it without any prejudice. Since, data has become one of the most valuable asset in a person's life in this digitalised world, it is the duty of the government to ensure its right use.

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