

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3772
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 18.12.2024

THREAT OF CYBER BREACHES

3772. SHRI P C MOHAN:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures being implemented by the Government to protect citizens' digital privacy under the proposed Data Protection Bill in light of increasing digitization and the growing threat of cyber breaches;
- (b) the primary protections for users in case of data breaches;
- (c) the penalties proposed for data breaches or unauthorised data sharing under the bill and the manner in which enforcement of these penalties would be managed; and
- (d) the mechanisms likely to be put in place to ensure transparency for citizens about the manner/procedure in which their data is being collected, stored and used particularly by large digital platforms?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) to (d): The policies of the Government are aimed at ensuring an open, safe, trusted and accountable cyberspace for users in the country. A significant step in this direction is the enactment of the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 ('Act') which establishes the legal framework to regulate the processing, including sharing of digital personal data. The Act provides that the personal data of individuals is processed for lawful purposes by the Data Fiduciaries with notice and consent or for certain legitimate uses. The Data Principal has the right to obtain from the data fiduciary, to whom she has previously given consent, a summary of personal data and of processing activities undertaken by the Data Fiduciary. The Data Fiduciary is obligated to protect personal data by taking reasonable security safeguards to prevent personal data breach. In the event of any personal data breach, the Data Fiduciary has to intimate to the Data Protection Board and each affected Data Principal. Further, in the event of any such breach or complaint by the Data Principal with respect to exercise of her rights, the Data Protection Board after an inquiry, may impose monetary penalty as per the provisions of the Act. The Act prescribes different monetary penalties for different types of breaches of the Act, with the maximum penalty upto two hundred and fifty crore rupees.
