

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. **1503**
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 12.12.2025

ENFORCEMENT OF DIGITAL PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION ACT

1503. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR:
SHRI PRADIP KUMAR VARMA:

Will the Minister of Electronics and Information Technology be pleased to state:

- (a) the current timeline for the full implementation of all DPDP Act rules and regulations;
- (b) the manner in which the Ministry is establishing the Data Protection Board of India and its mechanism for penalising non-compliance;
- (c) whether a simplified framework has been created for small and medium enterprises to comply with the DPDP Act;
- (d) the manner in which the Ministry is coordinating with international bodies on cross-border data transfer compliance mechanisms; and
- (e) the specific steps taken to educate citizens about their new digital rights under the DPDP Act?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 (“Act”) provides for the processing of digital personal data in a manner that recognises both the rights of the individual to protect their personal data and the need to process such personal data for lawful purposes.

The Act traces its origin to the Supreme Court’s 2017 Puttaswamy judgment, which mandated a statutory framework for data protection in India. It was subsequently developed through successive draft Bills, culminating in the enactment of the Act.

The Act requires all Data Fiduciaries to ensure lawful processing of personal data, with clear obligations relating to transparency, purpose limitation, data minimization, accuracy, security safeguards, timely erasure, and respect for the rights of Data Principals. It mandates prompt notification of personal data breaches to both affected individuals and the Data Protection Board of India.

The Act, and the Digital Personal Data Protection Rules, 2025 (“Rules”) notified on 13 November, 2025 provide a timeline for phased implementation of its provisions over an eighteen-month transition period, including the establishment of the Data Protection Board.

The Rules specify the following implementation timelines:

- Phase 1: Establishment and operationalisation of the Data Protection Board of India

- Phase 2 (within one year): Registration and functioning of Consent Managers
- Phase 3 (within eighteen months): Compliance obligations for Data Fiduciaries including data principal rights, security safeguards and breach notification.

It requires Data Fiduciaries to implement strong security safeguards, erase personal data upon withdrawal of consent unless retention is legally required, and comply within the transition period. The Data Protection Board is to address violations of the Act. It can investigate breaches, issue corrective directions, and impose penalties. Penalties are determined based on factors like nature of breach, harm caused, safeguards in place, severity and recurrence.

The Act provides a framework of simplified compliance for few Data Fiduciaries, including startups. Such Data Fiduciaries are determined based on the volume and nature of personal data they process and are exempted from obligations such as providing notices, maintaining accurate personal data, erasing personal data, or furnishing summaries of the data they processed.

The Act and Rules provide for the Government to notify jurisdictions to which the transfer of personal data may be restricted.

The Government is ensuring widespread awareness and adoption of the DPDP Act by educating citizens on their rights and responsibilities. Capacity-building initiatives, including workshops, conferences, expert sessions, and digital outreach campaigns are also being undertaken.
