GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 716

TO BE ANSWERED ON: 05.12.2025

DIGITAL PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION (DPDP) ACT ENFORCEMENT

716. SHRI SADANAND MHALU SHET TANAVADE: SHRI KESRIDEVSINH JHALA:

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

- (a) the current timeline for the full implementation of all Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act rules and regulations;
- (b) the manner in which 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; and
- (d) the manner in which Government is coordinating with international bodies on cross-border data transfer compliance mechanisms?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): 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, and the Digital Personal Data Protection Rules, 2025 ("Rules") have been notified on 13 November, 2025. They provide a timeline for implementation of its provisions, including the establishment of the Data Protection Board.

The Act and Rules mandate that personal data be processed only for lawful purposes with free, informed, specific and unambiguous consent, preceded or accompanied with the notice of data collection and its intended purposes.

It requires Data Fiduciaries to implement strong security safeguards, erase personal data upon withdrawal of consent unless retention is legally required, and comply within an 18-month transition period.

Overall, the Act and Rules strengthen privacy and user rights, ensure secure data processing, protect children, impose penalties, and build digital trust while enabling ease of doing business.

The Data Protection Board is to address violations of the Act. It can investigate breaches, issue corrective directions, and impose penalties up to ₹250 crore. Penalties are determined based on factors like nature of breach, harm caused, safeguards in place, severity and recurrence.

The Act simplifies compliance for start-ups and certain other Data Fiduciaries by exempting them from few obligations, including providing notices, maintaining accurate personal data, erasing personal data, and supplying summaries of the personal data they process.

The Government coordinates the cross-border data transfer compliance by evaluating other countries and territories and notifying those to which the transfer of personal data may be restricted.
