



The Privacy Desk

Data Protection and Privacy Newsletter

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A background image showing a group of business professionals in a meeting. They are seated around a table with laptops, papers, and pens. The image is dimmed and has a dark blue overlay. The text 'News Updates' is centered in white.

News Updates



General Data Protection Regulation

GDPR completes two years!

As on 25 May 2020, it has been two years since the GDPR was implemented. It can be said without a doubt that GDPR has altered the global privacy landscape.



Proposed amendment to Singapore's Personal Data Protection Act 2012

Singapore's Ministry of Communications and Information and the Personal Data Protection Commission (PDPC), through its joint press release, has invited the feedback of public on proposed Personal Data Protection (Amendment) Bill 2020.

The key proposed amendments include mandating organizations to notify PDPC of a data breach and to the affected individuals, expanding meaning of deemed consent, adding new exceptions for legitimate interests and business improvement, and under a new data portability obligation, individuals will also be able to ask for a copy of their personal data to be transmitted to another organization. To serve as a stronger deterrent, financial penalties for organizations that breach the PDPA will be increased to up to 10% of their annual turnover or S\$1 million, whichever is higher. Companies are currently liable for financial penalties of up to S\$1 million.



Privacy concerns ‘Reliance Jio – Facebook’ deal

Recently, Reliance Jio and Facebook entered into a deal wherein Facebook invested \$5.7 billion for a 9.99 per cent stake in Jio Platforms. The deal has raised concerns as being approved without addressing the data protection and privacy concerns.

The architect of Personal Data Protection Bill in India, Justice B N Srikrishna, pointed out the absence of a data regulator to oversee deal and emphasized the need of Personal Data Protection Act to address the data protection and privacy concerns in such transactions.

Needless to say, both the companies have access to personal data of millions of individuals and therefore, this deal is likely to have a huge impact on the same.



OECD's approach on contact tracing apps

The Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD) has published a report on the use of contact tracing apps.

OECD in its report supports a cautious approach for contact tracing apps and highlights that tracking apps should embody privacy-by-design to address the privacy and data protection risks.

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Enforcement updates



Canadian Competition Bureau fines Facebook

The Canadian Competition Bureau has fined Facebook for making false or misleading disclosure about the privacy of Canadians' personal information and how users can control who can access the Personal Information.

On 19th May, 2020 Facebook entered into a consent agreement with the Competition Bureau of Canada and agreed to pay a \$9 million fine, which is part of a settlement over the company's handling of users' personal information between August 2012 and June 2018.

Additionally, Facebook shall also pay \$500,000 for costs incurred by the Commissioner during the course of his investigation into this matter.



Irish watchdog fines Tusla

Tusla, a child and family agency of Ireland has been fined €75,000 by the Irish Data Protection Commission (DPC) for wrongly disclosing information about children to unauthorized people on three different cases. This is the first fine for breach under the General Data Protection Regulation by DPC.

According to the Irish DPC's Annual Report for 2019, Tusla had informed the DPC of its own volition. However, the agency confirmed that it will not contest the fine and will accept the decision of the court.

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