

**Government of India  
Ministry of Electronics and IT**

**Press Release**

Date 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2019

**Clarification regarding a story published in the Economic Times on Data Protection Bill**

Attention of the Ministry has been drawn to a media story published in the Economic Times dated 26th July, 2019 titled "Only Critical Data May Need to be Housed in India".

Following the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court that had held privacy, including 'informational privacy' to be a fundamental right, the Government of India had constituted a Committee of Experts under the Chairmanship of Justice B.N. Srikrishna, an eminent jurist and retired judge of the Supreme Court to study the issue. Following a consultative and participatory approach, the Committee had submitted its report to the Government on July 27, 2018. The report also had a draft bill attached to it. The Ministry had placed the report and the draft bill in public domain and invited comments from all stakeholders.

Taking onboard the feedback received, a draft Bill is under preparation by this Ministry in consultation with other concerned departments. Once the drafting process is complete, the draft Bill will be placed before the Parliament where it shall receive the benefit of examination and further consultations under India's parliamentary system.

The news story appears to be speculative and it is clarified that the Bill being prepared will address India's sovereign data concerns and provide a framework to boost innovation in India while complying with the directives contained in the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court.

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