



# Data Protection Laws

**Relevancy**

- ✓ G.S. Paper 2,3
- ✓ About data protection and need for it.
- ✓ B.N. SRIKRISHNA Committee for data protection and guidelines provided by the committee.
- ✓ White paper released by the committee.
- ✓ Major companies that store data globally and locally
- ✓ Aadhaar act and data protection laws in India

**Recently**

- ❖ B.N srikrishna committee has come out with the ten principles that should form the basis of the DATA PROTECTION ACT .

**What is Data Protection?**

- Individuals, as citizens and consumers need to have the means to exercise their right to privacy and protect themselves and their information from a abuse.
- This is particularly the case when it comes to our personal information.
- Data protection is about safeguarding our fundamental right to privacy, which is enshrined in international and regional laws and conventions.
- Data protection is commonly defined as the law designed to protect your personal information, which is collected, processed and stored by “automated” means or intended to be part of a filing system.

**Need For Data Protection**

- Every time you use a service, buy a product online, register for email, go to your doctor, pay your taxes, or enter into any contract or service request, you have to hand over some of your personal information.
- Even without your knowledge, information about you is being generated and captured by companies and agencies you are likely to have never knowingly interacted with.
- The only way citizens and consumers can have confidence in both government and business is through strong data protection practices, with effective legislation to help minimise needless monitoring by officialdom and regulate surveillance by companies.

**The committee for Data Protection**

- Justice B N Srikrishna, former judge of the Supreme Court of India head a Committee of experts which has been formed to deliberate on a data protection framework for the country.
- The government led ten-member committee will "identify key data protection issues in India and recommend methods of addressing them."
- Recently committee has come out with the white paper on Data Protection in which it had detailed about Key principles that should form the basis of the Data protection law.



## The key principles to become basis of data protection law

Committee has issued 7 major key guidelines for framing data protection law.

- Technology agnostic: The data protection law must take into account the continuous change in technology and standards of compliance.
- Holistic application: The law must cover both the private sector and the government sector. The committee of experts, however, also talks about “differential obligations” in case of “certain legitimate state aims”.
- Informed consent: The white paper talks about “informed consent” and not just consent. It says the consent should be “informed and meaningful”. It is not clear what “informed consent” means. Whether it refers to collection of data from users while keeping them informed about the process of data collection or it refers to the usual sense of the word — wherein users’ permission will be sought first and they will have the right to opt out.
- Data minimization: The data collected or being processed should be minimal — only that data which is necessary for the purpose for which it is being sought. However, the white paper also adds, the data will also be collected for “and other compatible purposes beneficial for the data subject”.
- Controller accountability: The committee is clear on fixing accountability of data controllers. It says, “The data controller should be held accountable for any processing of data, whether by itself or entities with whom it may have shared the data for processing.”
- Structured enforcement: The committee proposes to set up “a high-powered statutory authority”, which “must co-exist with appropriately decentralized enforcement mechanisms.”
- Deterrent penalties: It proposes for “adequate” penalties for “wrongful processing” to ensure deterrence.

## What has not been addressed in the white paper released by Sri Krishna committee?

- There is not understanding of the many technologies that come together currently to protect data in India.
- A digital economy — such as India’s — relies overwhelmingly on imported technologies cannot be levelled overnight to make way for a uniform data protection law. For instance, more than 80% of Indian smartphone users today rely on Google’s Android operating system.
- But the majority of those mobile devices are sold by Samsung, Xiaomi or Oppo. Does the committee believe an operating system designed in Silicon Valley and a mobile phone manufactured in China’s Guangdong Province have similar rules to protect data? Or better still, can they be made to comply with a single, catch-all set of data protection standards?
- The data protection laws cannot be imposed on the territory outside India.

## Where Is The Data Stored By The Major Companies?

- Many of the world’s giant data centres are located in northern climes near water bodies, since they require mild temperatures and enormous quantities of water to cool thousands of servers.



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- Perhaps, if the data of every citizen were to be held inside the country, the state could probably enforce rules for its storage and sharing.

## What Can't Data Be Stored Locally?

- The U.S. Department of Energy in 2015 estimated that data centres in the country took about 2% of its overall power supply. Can India, with its round-the-year warm climate and scarce natural resources, really afford to divert electricity and water to maintain data centres?
- State and central governments will also need to spend substantial amounts on physically securing these installations.
- The theory of comparative advantage tells us that India is better off relying on servers located elsewhere, while gaining in connectivity and access to high-quality digital products.

## How can the data protection be assured in a better manner in Aadhar act?

- In Unique Identification Authority (UIDAI) case Government is the custodian not only of Aadhaar data, but also data servers and secure lines that store and transport them.
- It is possible, therefore, to have a uniform law that can be strictly enforced. With a data protection statute, this may not be entirely feasible.
- When the data is stored outside for storage it becomes impossible to protect its usage.
- However the countries around the world are becoming strict and hence the new era that will be dawning the human civilization will be of data protection.





## Different Forms Of Traditional Theatre

### Relevancy:

- ✓ GS Prelims, GS Mains paper I
- ✓ Art and Culture, Indian Theatre forms

**Various Indian Theatre forms are mentioned below:**

### **Bhand Pather**

- Bhand Pather, - Kashmir, is a unique combination of dance, music and acting.
- Satire, wit and parody are preferred for inducing laughter. In this theatre form, music is provided with surnai, nagaara and dhol.
- Since the actors of Bhand Pather are mainly from the farming community, the impact of their way of living, ideals and sensitivity is discernible.

### **Swang**

- Originally the theatre form Swang, was mainly music-based. Gradually, prose too, played its role in the dialogues.
- The softness of emotions, accomplishment of rasa alongwith the development of character can be seen in this theatre form.
- The two important styles of Swang are from Rohtak and Haathras.
- In the style belonging to Rohtak, the language used is Haryanvi (Bangru) and in Haathras, it is Brajbhasha.

### **Nautanki**

- Nautanki is usually associated with Uttar Pradesh.
- The most popular centres of this traditional theatre form are Kanpur, Lucknow and Haathras.
- The meters used in the verses are: Doha, Chaubola, Chhappai, Behar-e-tabeel.
- There was a time when only men acted in Nautanki but nowadays, women have also started taking part in the performances. Among those remembered with reverence is Gulab Bai of Kanpur.



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- She gave a new dimension to this old theatre form.

## Raasleela

- Raasleela is based exclusively on Lord Krishna legends; it is believed that Nand Das wrote the initial plays based on the life of Krishna.
- In this theatre form the dialogues in prose combined beautifully with songs and scenes from Krishna's pranks.

## Bhavai

- Bhavai is the traditional theatre form of Gujarat.
- The centers of this form are Kutch and Kathiawar.
- The instruments used in Bhavai are: bhungal, tabla, flute, pakhaawaj, rabaab, sarangi, manjeera, etc.
- In Bhavai, there is a rare synthesis of devotional and romantic sentiments.

## Jatras

- Fairs in honour of gods, or religious rituals and ceremonies have within their framework musical plays are known as Jatra.
- This form was born and nurtured in Bengal. Krishna Jatra became popular due to Chaitanya's influence. Later, however, worldly love stories too, found a place in Jatra.
- The earlier form of Jatra has been musical. Dialogues were added at later stage. The actors themselves describe the change of scene, the place of action, etc.

## Maach

- Maach is the traditional theatre form of Madhya Pradesh.
- The term Maach is used for the stage itself as also for the play. In this theatre form songs are given prominence in between the dialogues.
- The term for dialogue in this form is bol and rhyme in narration is termed vanag.
- The tunes of this theatre form are known as rangat.



## Bhaona

- Bhaona is a presentation of the Ankia Naat of Assam. In Bhaona cultural glimpses of Assam, Bengal Orissa, Mathura and Brindavan can be seen.
- The Sutradhaar, or narrator begins the story, first in Sanskrit and then in either Brajboli or Assamese.

## Tamaasha

- Tamaasha is a traditional folk theatre form of Maharashtra.
- It has evolved from the folk forms such as Gondhal, Jagran and Kirtan.
- Unlike other theatre forms, in Tamaasha the female actress is the chief exponent of dance movements in the play. She is known as Murki.
- Classical music, footwork at lightning-speed, and vivid gestures make it possible to portray all the emotions through dance.

## Dashavatar

- Dashavatar is the most developed theatre form of the Konkan and Goa regions.
- The performers personify the ten incarnations of Lord Vishnu-the god of preservation and creativity.
- The ten incarnations are Matsya (fish), Kurma (tortoise), Varaha (boar), Narsimha (lion-man), Vaman (dwarf), Parashuram, Rama, Krishna (or Balram), Buddha and Kalki.
- Apart from stylized make-up, the Dashavatar performers wear masks of wood and papier mache.

## Krishnattam

- Krishnattam, folk theatre of Kerala, came into existence in the middle of 17th century A.D. under the patronage of King Manavada of Calicut. Krishnattam is a cycle of eight plays performed for eight consecutive days.
- The plays are Avataram, Kalamandana, Rasa krida, kamasavadha, Swayamvaram, Bana Yudham, Vivida Vadham, and Swargarohana.
- The episodes are based on the theme of Lord Krishna - his birth, childhood pranks and various deeds depicting victory of good over evil.

## Mudiyettu



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- Mudi yettu, traditional folk theatre form of Kerala is celebrated in the month of Vrischikam (November-December).
- It is usually performed only in the Kali temples of Kerala, as an oblation to the Goddess.
- It depicts the triumph of goddess Bhadrakali over the asura Darika.
- The seven characters in Mudi yettu-Shiva, Narada, Darika, Danavendra, Bhadrakali, Kooli and Koimbidar (Nandikeshvara) are all heavily made-up.

## Koodiyaattam

- Koodiyaattam, one of the oldest traditional theatre forms of Kerala, is based on Sanskrit theatre traditions.
- The characters of this theatre form are: Chakyaar or actor, Naambiyaar, the instrumentalists and Naangyaar, those taking on women's roles.
- The Sutradhar or narrator and the Vidushak or jesters are the protagonists.
- It is the Vidushak alone who delivers the dialogues.
- Emphasis on hand gestures and eye movements makes this dance and theatre form unique.

## Yakshagaana

- Yakshagaana, traditional theatre form of Karnataka, is based on mythological stories and Puranas.
- The most popular episodes are from the Mahabharata i.e. Draupadi swayamvar, Subhadra vivah, Abhimanyu vadh, Karna-Arjun yuddh and from Ramayana i.e. Raajyaabhishek, Lav-kush Yuddh, Baali-Sugreeva yuddha and Panchavati.

## Therukoothu

- Therukoothu, the most popular form of folk drama of Tamil Nadu, literally means "street play".
- It is mostly performed at the time of annual temple festivals of Mariamman (Rain goddess) to achieve rich harvest.
- At the core of the extensive repertoire of Therukoothu there is a cycle of eight plays based on the life of Draupadi.
- Kattiakaran, the Sutradhara of the Therukoothu performance, gives the gist of the play to the audience and Komali entertains the audience with his buffoonery.

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# Inflation Targeting

## Relevancy

- ✓ G.S. Paper 2,3
- ✓ About inflation targeting
- ✓ The monetary policy committee, relation of RBI with inflation targets

## What Is Inflation Targeting?

- Technically, inflation targeting is a type of monetary policy framework. A Monetary Policy Framework shows how a central bank's policy instrument (like repo) works in the economy to influence (hit) a target (like inflation). The main features of inflation targeting framework are:
  - Single target: inflation
  - Single instrument used by the central bank: short term interest rate (repo)
  - Single objective: Price Stability.

## Why Inflation Targeting Is Controversial?

- A unique and at the same time a controversial feature inflation targeting is that the central bank should sideline all other objectives to ensure that the single goal of price stability is realized.
- This strategy makes the IT framework generally unacceptable in the developing world. This is because there are two problems while a developing country central bank adopt it.
  - First, fighting inflation or price stability is one important objective of the general macroeconomic objective in fast growing developing economies.
  - The equally important objective is achievement faster economic growth. Second one is that generally there is conflict or trade-off between the objective of price stability and economic growth.
- Another limitation of inflation targeting in countries like India, it neglects the real cause of inflation – agricultural supply shocks which can't be solved by any monetary policy action.
- (A good argument was elaborated by Pulpure Balakrishnan in his article: Retrofitting the Reserve Bank" – the Hindu, Editorial, August 6, 2016.)
- There is intense debate about the suitability of inflation targeting in developing economies on the one hand and on the other many economists argue that after the global financial crisis, inflation targeting has lost much of its relevance.
- A negative side of inflation targeting as a philosophy is that it openly accepts reduction of economic growth as a way to achieve price stability. But growth is as important as price stability.



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In this context, inflation targeting was introduced in India several years after the suggestion of its adoption by the Urjit Patel Committee. Following are the main features of the inflation targeting regime introduced in India.

## The Monetary Policy Committee:

- The MPC would be entrusted with the task of fixing the benchmark policy rate (repo rate) required to contain inflation within the specified target level.
- Under the RBI Act, the Central Government, in consultation with the RBI, determines the inflation target in terms of the Consumer Price Index (CPI), once in every five years.
- This target would be notified in the Official Gazette.

## Determination and notification of Inflation Target

- In exercise of the powers conferred under the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, the Central Government, in consultation with RBI, has fixed the inflation target for the period beginning from August 5, 2016 and ending on the March 31, 2021, as under:
- Inflation Target: Four per cent.
- Upper tolerance level: Six per cent.
- Lower tolerance level: Two per cent.
- While setting the above target, the government elaborated that inflation targeting in India will consider the growth dimensions also. "The key advantage of a range around a target is that it allows MPC to recognise the short run trade-offs between inflation and growth but enables it to pursue the inflation target in long run over the course of business cycle."

## What is the condition for a failed monetary policy with respect to the set target?

- The fresh element in the government notification is the interpretation of monetary policy failure and the launch time for correction measures.
- As per the policy, if inflation goes above 6% or goes below 2% for three consecutive quarters, then it will be treated as the failure of the RBI's monetary policy.
- Counteractive measures should be initiated in such a scenario.

## What the RBI to do if the inflation target is not met?

- The new notification also prescribes the procedure to be followed by the RBI if the target is missed.
- "Where RBI fails to meet the inflation target, it shall set out a report to the Central Government stating the reasons for failure to achieve the inflation target; remedial actions proposed to be taken by RBI; and an estimate of the time-period within which the inflation target shall be achieved pursuant to timely implementation of proposed remedial actions."

## What is the time period for a set target?



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- The Central Government, in consultation with the RBI, determines the inflation target in terms of the Consumer Price Index (CPI), ***once in every five years.***
- This target would be notified in the Official Gazette. The current target will end on March 31, 2021.





# UN Security Council Reform

## Relevancy

✓ G.S. Paper 3

✓ Need for Reforms in UN security council

### Why the security council should be reformed?

- The composition of the Security Council was established in 1945.
- Since then the geopolitical realities have changed drastically, but the Council has changed very little.
- The victors of World War II shaped the United Nations Charter in their national interests, dividing the permanent seats, and associated veto power, among themselves.
  - Any reform of the Security Council would require an amendment to the Charter
- Reform of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) encompasses five key issues: categories of membership,
  - The question of the veto held by the five permanent members,
    - Regional representation,
  - The size of an enlarged council and its working methods, and the security council-general assembly relationship.
  - Member states, regional groups and other member state interest groupings developed different positions and proposals on how to move forward on this contested issue.
- Out of all the proposed areas of reform, Veto issue is the main issue.

### What is the requirement for reforming the Security council?

- Any reform of the Security Council would require the agreement of at least two-thirds of UN member states, and that of all the permanent members of the UNSC enjoying the veto right.

### What is veto power?

- The United Nations Security Council "power of veto" refers to the veto power wielded solely by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council (China, France, Russia, United Kingdom, and United States), enabling them to prevent the adoption of any "substantive" resolution.
- Abstention or absence from the vote by a permanent member does *not* prevent a draft resolution from being adopted.



- However, the veto power does not apply to "procedural" votes, as determined by the permanent members themselves

How this Veto power has been used till date?

- This is a list of United Nations Security Council Resolutions that have been vetoed by one of the five permanent members of the security council between 16 February 1946 to the present day.
- Number of resolutions vetoed by each of the five permanent members of the Security Council between 1946 and 2017.

What is G4 group?

- Japan and Germany had become the second - and third-largest financial contributors to the United Nations, and started to demand a permanent seat.
- Also Brazil (fifth largest country in terms of territory) and India (second largest country in terms of population) as the most powerful countries within their regional groups and key players within their regions saw themselves with a permanent seat.
  - This group of four countries formed an interest group later known as the G4.

What is coffee club and why they are opposed to G4 group?

- Regional rivals were opposed to the G4 becoming permanent members with a veto power. They favored the expansion of the non-permanent category of seats with members to be elected on a regional basis. Italy, Pakistan, Mexico and Egypt started to form an interest group, known as the "Coffee Club" and later "Uniting for Consensus".

What is African group and what is its demand?

- The African Group has 54 members (28% of all UN members), and is thus the largest regional group by number of member states. It is the only regional group that has a territory that coincides with the traditional continent of which its name originates.
  - They demand representation due to historical wrongs done against them

What is Uniting for Consensus?

- On 26 July 2005, five UN member countries, Italy, Argentina, Canada, Colombia and Pakistan, representing a larger group of countries called *Uniting for Consensus* lead by Italy, proposed to the General Assembly another project that maintains five permanent members and raises the number of non-permanent members to 20.
- On May 2011, 120 UN members states participated in a Uniting for Consensus meeting in Rome

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