

India IGF (IIGF-2024) Workshop

Part 1 - Lead Organizer

Salutation	Mr.
Contact Person	
Organization / Affiliation (Please state "Individual" if appropriate)	
Designation	
Economy of Residence	India
Primary Stakeholder Group	Civil Society

Part 2 - Workshop

Primary Theme	Innovating Internet Governance for India
Session Title	When Data Protection Meets Sectoral Regulation – Need for Coordination and Harmonisation
Session Format	Panel Discussion

Description of Session Formats

Birds of a Feather (BoF) – An informal discussion session designed to connect the participants of shared topic of interests without a pre-planned agenda.

Panel - Presentation and/or sharing of viewpoints by speakers on a particular topic. The number of speakers on the panel shall not be more than 4 to allow sufficient time for interaction with the attendees.

Roundtable - Interactive dialogue involving all participants with designated moderators and not more than 2 speakers.

Specific Issues of Discussion

Since technology cuts across multiple sectors, privacy and data protection are both vertical (across sectors) and horizontal (across the size of the business) in nature. This will challenge the future Data Protection Board as it will have to design and enforce standards to realise a fundamental right across various contexts and sectors.

The Digital Personal Data Protection Act 2023 (DPDPA) is not India's first effort to regulate personal data. Various laws and regulations directly or indirectly apply to the handling of personal data in India. This would include, for example, a draft bill on DNA technology, health data retention and management, etc. Given that the DPDPA may prevail over other existing and proposed laws in case of inconsistency, this

jurisdictional precedence is easier said than done in the Indian regulatory landscape.

Therefore, as contending with inter-regulatory harmonisation and coordination problems would be a major concern, this session will discuss the specific challenges of inter-regulatory harmonisation and cooperation, why they will arise, and how to mitigate them as we move forward.

Describe the Relevance of Your Session to Theme

The lack of harmonisation of laws causes vague interpretation of these provisions and risks sub-optimal approaches to standard-setting and regulatory arbitrage that rely on discretion rather than a uniform application of the law. Therefore, this session will discuss the possible clashing scopes and provisions that are prone to multiple interpretations within various data regulations in India. By doing this, the session would try to identify emerging challenges towards harmonising digital laws in India and discuss means and strategies.

Methodology / Agenda

The session will be interactive by engaging with audience questions as follows,

- 10 mins - The Moderator will discuss the event flow, introduce the guest and set the context for the panel discussion.
- 30 mins - We panellists will get 10 mins each to share their views and perspectives.
- 15 mins - Moderated Q&A
- 5 mins - Concluding remarks

Please provide 3 subject matter tags that best describe your session. #harmonisation #digitallaws #sectoralregulations

*Please specify gender e.g. agender, cis woman, cis man, female, gender-fluid, gender-neutral, male, trans woman, trans man, etc.

Moderators & Speakers Info (Please complete where possible)

	Moderator (Primary)	Moderator (Backup)	Speaker 1	Speaker 2	Speaker 3	Speaker 4
Name	Kamesh Shekar	Vaishnavi Sharma	Renuka Sane	Ajay Shah	Justice B. N. Srikrishna	Malavika Raghavan
Email						
Organization	The Dialogue	The Dialogue	NIPFP	Jindal Global University	Supreme Court of India	London School of Economics
Designation	Senior Programme Manager	Research Associate	Professor	Professor	Former Judge	PHD Scholar
Gender	Male	Female	Female	Male	Male	Female
Economy of Residence / Country	India	India	India	India	India	London

	Moderator (Primary)	Moderator (Backup)	Speaker 1	Speaker 2	Speaker 3	Speaker 4
Stakeholder Group	Civil Society	Civil Society	Academia	Academia	Other	Academia
Status of Confirmation	Confirmed	Confirmed	Proposed	Proposed	Proposed	Proposed

Please explain the rationale for choosing each of the above contributors to the session.

- (1) Kamesh Shekar: Kamesh Shekar leads the Privacy and Data Governance vertical and co-leads the Artificial Intelligence vertical at The Dialogue. He also serves as a Youth Ambassador for The Internet Society. With an educational background, including a PGP in public policy from the Takshashila Institution, an MA in media and cultural studies, and a BA in social sciences from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Kamesh is a dedicated researcher.
- (2) Vaishnavi Sharma: Vaishnavi Sharma serves as a Research Associate at The Dialogue, specializing in privacy and data governance research. She earned her undergraduate degree from Maharashtra National Law University, Mumbai, with a strong focus on constitutional law. Her primary areas of interest encompass fundamental rights, including freedom of speech and expression, assembly, and privacy, both in offline and online contexts.
- (3) Renuka Sane: Renuka Sane is the Research Director at TrustBridge since 2023. She has held academic positions including Associate Professor at the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, Visiting Assistant Professor at the Indian Statistical Institute, and Research Economist at IGIDR. Her prior roles also include Lecturer-cum-Postdoctoral Fellow at the Indian Statistical Institute and Associate Investigator at the ARC Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research, UNSW.
- (4) Ajay Shah: Ajay Shah studied at IIT, Bombay and USC, Los Angeles. He has held positions at Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), Indra Gandhi Institute for Development Research (IGIDR), Department of Economic Affairs at the Ministry of Finance and National Institute for Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP). He does academic and policy-oriented research on India, at the intersection of economics, law, and public administration.
- (5) Justice BN Srikrishna: Justice B.N. Srikrishna is a distinguished former judge of the Supreme Court of India, renowned for his significant contributions to Indian jurisprudence. He served as a Supreme Court judge, during which he was involved in landmark judgments and pivotal legal reforms. Post-retirement, Justice Srikrishna has continued to impact the legal field as a chairperson of various committees, including those related to data protection and financial sector reforms.
- (6) Malavika Raghavan: Malavika is a lawyer specializing in the impact of digitization on low-income individuals in India, with her doctoral research at LSE focusing on law and technology in public sector information systems. She serves as a Senior Fellow at the Future of Privacy Forum, where she provides insights on data protection and digital regulation in India.

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Session Title

When Data Protection Meets Sectoral Regulation – Need for Coordination and Harmonisation