

## **Draft Guidelines for anonymisation of data**

The Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (“**MeitY**”) *vide* its notification dated August 30, 2022, released the draft Guidelines for anonymisation of data (“**Draft Guidelines**”) for public consultation. The objective of the Draft Guidelines is to provide comprehensive information and practical guidance on anonymisation of data and enhance privacy protection through data anonymisation while processing, publishing, storing or sharing data with other entities.

The Draft Guidelines also seek to provide standard operating procedures and checklists so that the concept of data anonymisation can be implemented conveniently by various organisations and government departments.

The Draft Guidelines broadly address the following:

1. The meaning of data anonymisation, and the stages of information lifecycle at which data anonymisation may happen;
2. Types of anonymisation which includes static/in-place anonymisation and dynamic anonymisation;
3. The advantages, limitations and suitability of the various techniques of data anonymisation for different datasets/ scenarios;
4. The data anonymisation techniques discussed include Attribute Suppression, Character Masking, Data Swapping, Record Suppression, Generalisation, Data Perturbation, Data Aggregation etc.;
5. Crucial aspects related to capacity building and awareness creation to fulfil the objectives of data anonymisation;
6. Necessity of performing a risk assessment both pre and post-release of anonymised data;
7. Data privacy incident reporting.

The stakeholders are required to provide their comments by September 21, 2022.

## Information Technology Practice

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