

NEWSLETTER

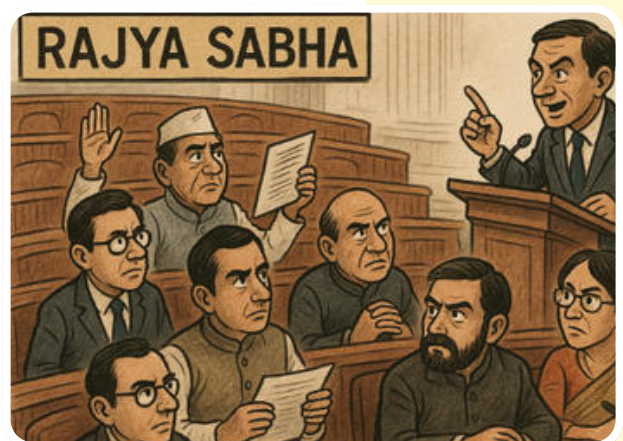
GLOBAL TECH & DIGITAL LAW DIGEST

August 2025



INDIA'S MULTI-LAYERED CYBER DEFENCE PRESENTED IN PARLIAMENT

On a Parliamentary question raised in Rajya Sabha on 8 August 2025, the Government of India reaffirmed that the country is well-equipped to counter evolving cyber crimes and AI-driven harms such as deepfakes. The multi-layered cyber response system is backed by the IT Act, the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, and the IT Rules, 2021, ensuring platform accountability, data security, and user protection. Institutions, including the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre, CERT-In, and the Grievance Appellate Committees, along with citizen reporting platforms and awareness initiatives, further strengthen India's readiness to safeguard a safe and trusted digital ecosystem.



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GOVERNMENT LAYS TO REST ALL CLAIMS FOR DPDP ACT AMENDMENT

The government has confirmed that despite the opposition from journalists and human rights organisations there will not be any further amendments to the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023. Critics contend that by removing the public interest override and enabling authorities to withhold information as “personal”, the Act weakens the RTI Act. Former High Court Justice A P Shah in an open letter to the Attorney General of India on July 28 cautioned that this could undermine transparency and prevent government oversight. Journalist bodies demand specific exemptions for press work, a safeguard dropped from earlier drafts. The law, according to activists, will deter whistleblowers and affect accountability for corruption and assistance programs. The Data Protection Board is still under government control and has the authority to sanction anyone up to Rs. 500 crore, which raises concerns about abuse. The Act aims to protect privacy, but the balance between privacy and press freedom remains unresolved. This debate will shape India’s digital rights landscape for years to come.



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SUPREME COURT BACKS PREVENTIVE CYBERCRIME DETENTION

23 June 2025, the Supreme Court praised Tamil Nadu for using preventive detention laws against cybercrime offenders while hearing a case arising from a Rs 84.5 lakh fraud. A preventive detention order, upheld by the Madras High Court, was challenged on grounds of constitutional and procedural violations. The Bench of Justice Sandeep Mehta and Justice Joymalya Bagchi observed that conventional criminal laws have not been fully effective against cybercrime offenders and described the State’s approach as a welcome trend. This can be seen as a significant shift toward preventive tools in combating complex cybercrimes, while also raising important questions on maintaining the balance between enforcement and fundamental rights.



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THE DIGITAL REVOLUTION LEAD BY INDIAN COURTS

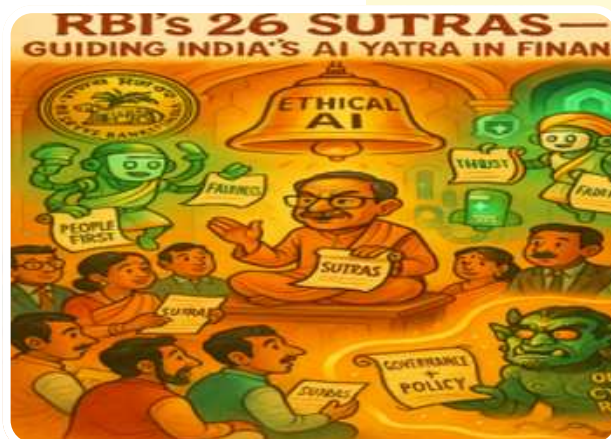
Under the e-Courts Project (Phase III), which has been approved with a Rs.7, 210 crore investment for 2023-2027, India's judiciary is undergoing a digital revolution. Through Digital Courts 2.1, the project seeks to expedite judicial procedures, digitise records, and facilitate paperless operations. In order to ensure the long-term preservation of court material, more than 521 crore pages from High Courts and District Courts have already been digitised. Lawyers can now file cases and upload documents from anywhere using the e-filing system (version 3.0), and tech-driven summons services and safe transactions are made possible by e-Payment and NSTEP. For the public to obtain verdicts, a judgment search portal offers free, sophisticated search facilities. With 22, 372 court halls and 19, 851 residential units already in operation, an increase of more than 40% since 2014 infrastructure growth has been substantial.



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RBI ROLLS OUT FREE-AI REPORT CHARTING THE PATH FOR “FAIR & ACCOUNTABLE” AI

RBI provides 26 Sutras and an Ethical AI path for the Financial Sector. Artificial Intelligence is rapidly transforming India's financial ecosystem, from credit assessment and fraud detection to supervisory tools, but its unchecked use poses risks of bias, opacity, and cybersecurity threats. To ensure responsible and ethical AI adoption, the RBI's FREE-AI Committee has released a roadmap anchored in 7 guiding Sutras—including Trust as Foundation, People First, Fairness, and Accountability. The framework balances innovation enablement with risk mitigation through 6 strategic pillars covering Infrastructure, Policy, Capacity, Governance, Protection, and Assurance. Key concepts include AI Innovation Sandboxes, indigenous financial AI models, and shared data-compute infrastructure. On the governance side, RBI encourages board-approved AI policies, AI-inclusive audits, cybersecurity advancements, and required consumer disclosure when interacting with AI.



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OVERHAULING OF LAWS RELATED TO ONLINE GAMING

Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill, 2025, an important milestone in India's digital strategy, was approved by Parliament. The law encourages e-sports and safe social games while outlawing online money games, or those with monetary stakes. The actions follow claims of Rs. 20, 0000 crore in losses and millions of people impacted by financial hardship and addiction to gambling. Bill tackles issues like fraud, money laundering, and national security threats associated with unregulated platforms. With plans for training academies, research facilities, and competitions, e-sports receive official status as a competitive sport. To improve skills, social and educational games will be promoted. The industry will be supervised and compliance will be enforced by a new regulatory body. Tough punishments are in place, including fines of up to Rs. 1 crore, three years in prison, and harsher treatment for repeat offenders.



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GLOBALLY

VIETNAM PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION LAW (PDPL)

From January 1, 2026, Vietnam has replaced Decree 13 with a comprehensive legal framework by the official enactment of Law No. 91/2025/QH15 on Personal Data Protection (PDPL). The law outlaws the sale and acquisition of personal data, sets hefty penalties (up to VND 3 billion or 5% of worldwide income) for infractions, and tightens controls on cross-border transfers. Stricter requirements, such as required consent, security safeguards, and ethical compliance, are placed on key industries, including healthcare, banking, recruiting, social media, AI and biometrics. Companies are now required to perform Cross-Border Transfer Impact Assessments (CTIA) and Data Processing Impact Assessments (DPIA) within 60 days of processing of transferring data. Granular, informed, and purpose-specific consent is required; blanket or bundled packages are prohibited.



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INDIA, UK UNITE ON 6G FUTURE

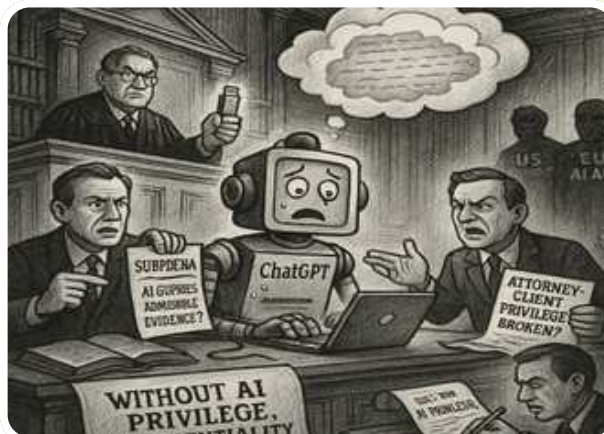
India's Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) and SONIC Labs in order to work together on Open RAN, 5G, and AI-driven telecom solutions, have inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The deal is a component of a larger Indo-UK discussion on next-generation telecom technologies, such as digital infrastructure, telecom security, and 6G research. Cloud-based 6G, green networks, quantum communication, and submarine cable security were the main topics of discussion during the visit. Joint Centres of Excellence in digital twins for sophisticated network simulations, AI for networks, and telecom cybersecurity are among the plans. To expedite international interoperability, both countries will collaborate on 6G standardisation (IMT 2030) and mutual recognition of testing labs. Collaboration on privacy-enhancing technologies, cross-sectoral data applications, and ethical AI in telecom were also highlighted during the visit.



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CHATGPT NOT PROTECTED BY ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Open AI Sam Altman has revealed that ChatGPT interactions are not shielded by attorney-client privilege raising concerns in legal circles. Due to the revelation, clients and law firms now face additional legal concerns as AI queries may be subpoenaed and used as evidence in court. Older shared links may now show up online as Open AI eliminated the capability that permitted publicly searchable shared discussions. Experts caution that even if users remove important legal strategies or customer data from AI technologies, it may still be digitally discoverable. Authorities are taking note: Stricter data retention is being pushed by the US privacy legislation and the EU's AI Act. Without adequate privacy protections, legal experts are advised not to enter sensitive data into AI systems. The debate has revived calls for an "AI privilege" framework, similar to legal privilege, to safeguard confidential AI interactions.



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EDITOR'S NOTE



Maj. Vineet Kumar, Founder & Global President, CyberPeace

I am pleased to present this first edition of the **CyberPeace Global Tech & Digital Law Digest, August 2025**. As technology continues to advance at a remarkable pace, it is reshaping industries, governance, and society itself. Alongside these opportunities come complex challenges in cybersecurity and digital law that demand our attention and collective action. This issue is dedicated to exploring these themes, highlighting the trends, risks, and solutions that will define our digital future. I hope the insights shared here will spark meaningful thought and encourage dialogue toward building a safer, trusted, and resilient cyberspace.

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About CyberPeace Policy Advocacy and Cyber Diplomacy Vertical

WHO WE ARE

CyberPeace **Policy Advocacy and Cyber Diplomacy vertical** leads transformative action in digital policy. Through rigorous research, strategic dialogue, and international engagement, we work to secure cyberspace for all stakeholders, from governments to grassroots communities.

We play a key role in shaping digital policy in India and globally. Through in-depth research and strategic engagement, we develop **white papers, policy briefs, and recommendations on major legislative frameworks** including the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, the Telecommunication Act, the Central Electricity Authority Cybersecurity Regulations etc.

Our work informs **public consultations and parliamentary discussions, advancing understanding of issues like cybercrime, misinformation, data protection, and digital surveillance**. Internationally, we contribute to **multilateral processes** such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime's cybercrime treaty and collaborate with institutions including the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the Internet Governance Forum, and the Commonwealth Secretariat to promote inclusive and secure internet governance.