



විද්‍යා, තාක්ෂණය සහ ඩිජිටල් පරිණාමනය පිළිබඳ ආංශික අධීක්ෂණ කාරක සභාව

වෙන යොමු කරන ලද

පෞද්ගලික දත්ත ආරක්ෂණ (සංශෝධන) පනත් කෙටුම්පත

සම්බන්ධයෙන්

විද්‍යා, තාක්ෂණය සහ ඩිජිටල් පරිණාමනය පිළිබඳ ආංශික අධීක්ෂණ කාරක සභාවේ වාර්තාව

පාර්ලිමේන්තුව වෙත ඉදිරිපත් කරන ලද්දේ

විද්‍යා, තාක්ෂණය සහ ඩිජිටල් පරිණාමනය පිළිබඳ ආංශික අධීක්ෂණ කාරක සභාවේ සභාපති

ගරු (වෛද්‍ය) ජනක සේනාරත්න මහතා, පා.ම. විසිනි

2025 ජූනි මස 03 වැනි අඟහරුවාදා

විග්‍රහානම්, தொழில்நுட்பம் மற்றும் டிஜிட்டல் பரிணாமம் பற்றிய துறைசார் மேற்பார்வைக் குழுவிற்கு

ஆற்றுப்படுத்தப்பட்ட

தனிப்பட்ட தரவுப் பாதுகாப்பு (திருத்தச்) சட்டமூலம்

மீதான

விக்ரகாணம், தொழில்நுட்பம் மற்றும் டிஜிட்டல் பரிணாமம் பற்றிய துறைசார் மேற்பார்வைக் குழுவின்

அறிக்கை

விக்ரகாணம், தொழில்நுட்பம் மற்றும் டிஜிட்டல் பரிணாமம் பற்றிய துறைசார் மேற்பார்வைக் குழுவின்

தவிசாளர்

கௌரவ (டாக்டர்) ஜனக சேனாரத்ன, பா.உ. அவர்களால்

பாராளுமன்றத்திற்குச் சமர்ப்பிக்கப்பட்டது.

2025 யூன் 03, செவ்வாய்க்கிழமை

Report of the
Sectoral Oversight Committee on Science, Technology and Digital Transformation
on

Personal Data Protection (Amendment) Bill
referred to

Sectoral Oversight Committee on Science, Technology and Digital Transformation

Presented to Parliament by

Hon. (Dr.) Janaka Senarathna, M.P.

Chair of the

Sectoral Oversight Committee on Science, Technology and Digital Transformation

Tuesday, 03 June 2025

Report of the Committee

The Sectoral Oversight Committee on Science, Technology and Digital Transformation, at its meeting held on 27 May 2025 in Parliament, considered the following Bill:

- **Personal Data Protection (Amendment) Bill**
(Presented to the Parliament on 8th May 2025 and referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Science, Technology and Digital Transformation)

Committee Members Participated

Hon. (Dr.) Janaka Senarathna, M.P.(Chair)
Hon. Chathuranga Abeysinghe, M.P.
Hon. Lasith Bhashana Gamage, M.P.
Hon. (Mrs.) Hasara Liyanage, Attorney at Law, M.P.
Hon. Chandima Hettiaratchi, M.P.

Secretary to the Committee

Mrs. Chula Herath, Assistant Director (Administration)

Officials Participated

Data Protection Authority

Dr. Kanishka Karunasena, Director General (Actg.)

Attorney General's Department

Ms. Abigail Sooriyakumar Jayakody, State Counsel

Legal Draftsman's Department

Mrs. U. M. Sapukotana, Assistant Legal Draftsman

Introduction

The objective of the Personal Data Protection Act, No. 09 of 2022 is to regulate the processing of personal data, identify and strengthen the rights of data subjects in relation to personal data protection, establish the Data Protection Authority, and provide for related matters. The Personal Data Protection (Amendment) Bill, presented to Parliament on 08th May 2025, seeks to introduce essential amendments required for the effective implementation of the principal Act, while recognizing the necessity of a functioning institution capable of responding to future data-related incidents, ensuring equal support for both public and private sectors in adopting digital strategies, and meaningfully recognizing the rights of data subjects.

Observations of the Committee

1. Although the Act was passed in 2022, it has not been fully operationalized due to practical challenges in implementation and the proposed amendments are intended to address these impediments
2. The provision relating to the commencement date of the Act has been removed, thereby allowing the Minister to bring the Act into force in stages by specifying dates.
3. Although the Data Protection Authority (DPA) has been established, recruitment of the required cadre (approximately 42 personnel) is ongoing. Legislative drafts required for this purpose have been finalized and submitted to the Attorney General's Department for approval. Approval from the Department of Management Services has also been obtained. Hence, the Authority is expected to be fully staffed within the next 3–4 months
4. The power vested on the Data Protection Authority to make guidelines has been expanded and currently it has the power to make guidelines only regarding data management plans, and

after the amendment, the Authority will have the power to make guidelines on any matter mentioned in the Act.

5. The requirement for appointing a Data Protection Officer (DPO) by a public authority engaged in data processing has been omitted in the Bill. This is due to the fact that such a role is already encompassed within the definitions of “controller” and “public authority” under the Act, thereby enabling such entities to function similar to private entities (e.g., banks) during cross-border data transfers.
6. A provision has been introduced to allow a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be conducted only upon a written request made to the Authority. This is intended to minimize unnecessary work and delays for the Authority
7. A public authority acting as a controller or data processor shall not engage in cross-border data transfers in relation to categories of personal data specified under subsection (5), which may be determined by regulation.

Decision of the Committee

After deliberation, the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Science, Technology and Digital Transformation agreed to the Personal Data Protection (Amendment) Bill and decided that the Report of the Committee thereon be presented to Parliament by the Hon. (Dr.) Janaka Senarathna, Chair of the Committee, on Tuesday, 03 June 2025.