# Project Management Update from PMO Global Alliance India Hub <sup>1</sup>



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# **News Snippets**

PMO Insights – August 2023

## A Panel discussion on "DPDP Act 2023 – Impact on India's Startup Ecosystem"

A panel of experts discussed the far-reaching implications of the DPDP Act 2023 for the Indian startup ecosystem in a PMO Insight series. The panel members were <u>Dr. Pavan Duggal</u>, Advocate Supreme Court of India and Chairman International Commission on Cyber Security Law, <u>Col (Dr.) Inderjeet Singh</u>, Chief Cyber Officer, Vara and India's Top 30 Blockchain Think Tank, <u>Prasad Deore</u>, Senior Director, Data Security Council of India was moderated by <u>CS Rajiv Bajaj</u>, Founder, Bajaj & Bajaj Corporate Chambers.

This PMO Insights event was supported by <u>Pavan Duggal Associates</u>, Delhi Startups Club and India Blockchain Forum.

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More than 283 unique participants attended this live event via LinkedIn and YouTube.

The DPDP Act 2023 is a landmark legislation that will govern the collection, processing, and use of personal data in India. The Act gives individuals more control over their personal data and sets out strict rules for businesses that collect and process personal data.

The panel discussed how the DPDP Act 2023 will impact the Indian startup ecosystem. They agreed that the Act will create a level playing field for startups and large tech companies, and that it will help to build trust between businesses and consumers.

However, the panel also noted that the Act will pose some challenges for startups, such as the need to comply with the new consent requirements and the need to implement new data security measures.

<u>Dr. Pavan Duggal</u> said that the DPDP Act 2023 is "a game-changer" for the Indian startup ecosystem. He said that the Act will require startups to be more proactive in their approach to data privacy, and that it will create new opportunities for startups that offer data privacy solutions.

Col (Dr.) Inderjeet Singh said that the DPDP Act 2023 is "a positive step" for the Indian data ecosystem. He said that the Act will help to protect the privacy of individuals and that it will create a more secure environment for businesses to operate in.

<u>Prasad Deore</u> said that the DPDP Act 2023 is "a welcome development" for the Indian startup ecosystem. He said that the Act will help to boost the growth of the startup ecosystem by giving businesses the confidence to invest in data-driven technologies.

The DPDP Act 2023 is a significant piece of legislation that will have a major impact on the Indian startup ecosystem. The panel discussion highlighted the potential challenges and opportunities that the Act presents for startups. It is important for startups to be aware of the new requirements of the Act and to take steps to comply with them.

# The DPDP Act: Accountability Redefined

The DPDP Act, which became law in August 2023, marks a significant milestone in India's approach to data protection. It was born from the recognition of the right to privacy as a fundamental right by the Indian government in 2017. This recognition led to the formation of the Justice Shri Krishna committee, which played a pivotal role in drafting the DPDP Act.

One of the key takeaways from the panel discussion was the all-encompassing nature of the DPDP Act. It extends its reach across the entire tech ecosystem in India, necessitating compliance from all stakeholders, including startups. The Act introduces core principles of consent and notice for data processing, with severe penalties for non-compliance, including fines of up to 250 crore rupees per contravention.

#### **Proactive Compliance: The Imperative for Startups**

The panelists unanimously agreed on one crucial point: proactive compliance is the linchpin to effectively navigating the DPDP Act. This entails the provision of transparent notices to data subjects, the acquisition of unequivocal consent, and the prompt reporting of data breaches to the

Data Protection Board of India. Non-compliance could lead to substantial fines and legal liabilities.

As <u>Dr. Pavan Duggal</u>, the Supreme Court Advocate, emphasized, "Startups must understand that the DPDP Act ushers in a new era where data privacy and protection are integral to business strategies. Compliance is not an option; it is a mandate."

# **Leveling the Playing Field: Implications for Startups**

An intriguing facet of the DPDP Act is its potential to level the playing field between startups and tech giants. By establishing a robust regulatory framework, it fosters consumer trust in data handling practices. This paves the way for startups to thrive by offering innovative solutions like auditing, privacy consulting, consent management platforms, and more, in response to the new regulatory landscape.

# AI and DPDP Act: A Nexus of Accountability

The DPDP Act does not exempt AI-based tools from its purview. Whether it's generative AI or conventional AI, activities leading to the collection of personal information necessitate the appropriate consent of data subjects, aligning with the principles of the Act. AI-based entities cannot assume exemption; compliance remains imperative.

#### Harmonizing the DPDP Act and IT Act 2000

The DPDP Act and the Information Technology Act 2000 are integral to India's digital framework. However, potential conflicts exist between the two. Harmonizing these discrepancies will be crucial to ensure seamless data protection.

#### Fintech Startups: Balancing Compliance and Innovation

Fintech startups face unique challenges due to the DPDP Act. While compliance may introduce additional overheads, it also enables them to establish trust with global consumers. The regulatory framework can attract better investments and enhance transparency.

# **Data Fiduciaries: A Key Pillar of Accountability**

The DPDP Act places clear accountability on data fiduciaries for data processing and protection. Data fiduciaries must exercise due care in handling personal data, ensuring it is processed fairly, reasonably, and without harm to data subjects. Transparency, consent, and data minimization are paramount.

# **Looking Ahead: Data Protection Board of India**

The DPDP Act's establishment of the Data Protection Board of India underscores the government's commitment to safeguarding data privacy. Startups must remain vigilant as further rules and notifications emerge, which will shape their compliance landscape.

The panel discussion provided invaluable insights into the DPDP Act's implications for startups, underscoring the need for startups to prioritize data protection and compliance. As the government rolls out phased implementation and guidelines, startups must align their practices with the DPDP Act's principles to thrive in this evolving regulatory landscape.

Here are some of the key takeaways from the panel discussion:

- The DPDP Act 2023 will create a level playing field for startups and large tech companies.
- The Act will help to build trust between businesses and consumers.
- The Act will pose some challenges for startups, such as the need to comply with the new consent requirements and the need to implement new data security measures.
- Startups should be proactive in their approach to data privacy.
- The Act will create new opportunities for startups that offer data privacy solutions.

The DPDP Act 2023 is a landmark piece of legislation that will have a major impact on the Indian startup ecosystem. Startups should be aware of the new requirements of the Act and take steps to comply with them. The panel also answered few questions from the audience such as,

- A question regarding data privacy and security That is, right now, each and every startup focus on a business- and complaint-centric approach. but after DPDP act, it is expected that the approach will be changed to user centric approach,
- 2. Regarding data privacy and security, that is, right now, each and every startup focus on a business- and complaint-centric approach. but after DPDP act, it is expected that the approach will be changed to user centric approach,
- 3. Do we need to revisit the existing contracts as well. I mean whether data protection clauses need to be incorporated through addendums.
- 4. Does the review as a process extend to the vendors? Will that be a requirement?
- 5. What potential challenges or pitfalls should product managers anticipate when navigating the intersection of tech product development, user data, and legal compliance?
- 6. How can the incorporation of AI within the DPDP Act enhance its effectiveness and relevance for startups. or What role can artificial intelligence play in streamlining DPDP Act adherence for startups, and what potential benefits might this offer.

Watch the recorded session to learn more about DPDP Act 2023 and the responses from the panel for the above questions.

LinkedIn: <a href="https://lnkd.in/djFQhZCR">https://lnkd.in/djFQhZCR</a>
YouTube: <a href="https://lnkd.in/d4yfac77">https://lnkd.in/d4yfac77</a>

# Upcoming Events

## PMO India Awards 2023 - is back!

We are excited to extend a warm and cordial invitation to all Project /Program Management Offices (PMOs) across India to participate in the prestigious **PMO India Awards**. This remarkable event is set to recognize

and celebrate excellence in PMO, showcasing the incredible talent and accomplishments within the Indian PMO community.

The PMO India Awards promise to be a momentous occasion, shining a spotlight on the innovative and transformative initiatives led by PMOs in both the public and private sectors. This is your opportunity to showcase your PMO's dedication, commitment, and outstanding contributions to the field of project management.

#### What Are the PMO India Awards?

The PMO India Awards serve as a platform to acknowledge and honor the hard work and achievements of PMOs in India. These awards will highlight the best practices, projects, and professionals who have made a significant impact on the project management landscape.

Why Should You Participate?

**Recognition**: Gain well-deserved recognition for your PMO's outstanding projects and initiatives.

**Networking**: Connect with fellow project management professionals, exchange ideas, and build valuable relationships.

**Inspiration**: Be inspired by the innovative approaches and success stories of other PMOs.

**Benchmarking**: Evaluate your PMO's performance against industry standards and best practices.

**Celebration**: Celebrate the hard work and dedication of your team and boost morale.

#### **How Can You Participate?**

Participating in the PMO India Awards is a straightforward process:

1. Visit the PMO India Awards website: <u>Click here to visit the PMO India</u> Awards website.

- 2. Review the Categories: Explore the various award categories and select the ones that best align with your PMO's achievements.
- 3. Submit Your Entry: Complete the online submission form with details about your PMO's project(s) and accomplishments. Please reach out to our passionate volunteers <a href="Mahesh EV">Mahesh EV</a>, <a href="Vignesh Jayaraman">Vignesh Jayaraman</a> to smoothen your submission process.
- 4. Evaluation: Your submission will be thoroughly evaluated by a panel of esteemed judges.
- 5. Celebrate: If your PMO emerges as a finalist or winner, you will be celebrated during the prestigious PMO India Awards ceremony. And the winners will be nominated to the PMOGA Awards ceremony at a Global level.

#### **Don't Miss Your Chance to Shine!**

We encourage all PMOs in India to seize this incredible opportunity to be recognized and celebrated on a national stage. Your hard work and dedication deserve to be showcased, and the PMO India Awards are the perfect platform for this.

# **PMO Insights - September 2023**

# Topic: Improving Strategy Delivery & PMO Performance with Blockchain & Generative AI

In a dynamic and forward-looking discussion, experts from across the globe will convene to delve into the intricate relationship between Strategy Delivery and PMO (Project Management Office) Performance. The focal point of this engaging discourse will be how cutting-edge technologies like Blockchain and Generative AI can be harnessed to elevate and optimize these critical aspects of project management.

Mark your calendars for the 23rd of September, a Saturday, at 5 PM India time, as this promises to be an enlightening event that should not be missed.



This remarkable panel will feature distinguished professionals:

Heba Al Shehhi from the United Arab Emirates Col (Dr.) Inderjeet Singh representing India Dr. Al Zeitoun joining from the United States Dr. Mazin Gadir representing the UAE

Our esteemed Knowledge partners include the <u>India Blockchain</u> Forum Dubai Municipality and PMOGA UAE Hub

Furthermore, we express our gratitude to the steadfast supporters of this event, <u>Americo Pinto</u> and <u>PMO Global Alliance</u>, whose unwavering commitment has played a pivotal role in making this event possible.

In summary, this forthcoming event promises to be an enlightening exploration of how Blockchain and Generative AI can transform Strategy Delivery and enhance PMO Performance. It provides an excellent opportunity to glean insights from a panel of global experts in the field. Be sure to mark your calendar for the 23rd of September, 5 PM India time, and stay tuned for a stimulating discussion.

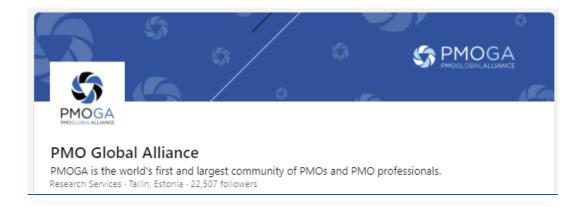
# Acknowledgments and References:

#### **PMOGA India Hub Board Members:**

- Gaurav Dhooper, President, PMOGA India Hub
- Kartikeyan Ramamurthy, India Ambassador for PMO Global Alliance
- Gaurang Vora, Chair PMO India Awards, Senior Director Projects & Alliances
- Priyanka Singh Bais , Director Marketing, PMOGA India Hub
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#### About the Author



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**Sri** is a Project Management professional with CSM, SaFe Agilist 5.0, CBE, ITIL and SSGB certifications. He has more than seventeen years of experience in project management, PMO and has handled delivering digital transformation projects. He holds a bachelor's degree in public Administration, Master's degree in Business Administration and an Executive Management Development Program in Project Management & Industry revolution 4.0 from Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode.

On a voluntary basis, he has been working for the PMO Global Alliance India Hub since July 2021 and he was elevated as Director of Communications from February 2023. His responsibilities include communication, public relations, and collaborations.

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