

# Anonymiser Hackathon | Concept Note

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## Need for Data Anonymiser:

Data often has personally identifiable information, sharing of which leads to violation of privacy. Hence, a tool is required which can access data and anonymize it, so that privacy of the person is protected in compliance with proposed Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2022 (to be enacted shortly). With this tool, live transactional data can be made accessible to various stakeholders without violating privacy.

The West Bengal State Government in the Department of Information Technology & Electronics is organizing a hackathon on creating this tool, called Data Anonymiser, through a 2-phase hackathon comprising IDEATHON (finding problem statement) and HACKATHON (creating the actual tool).

## Background:

In order to bring clarity, simplification and standardization in the process of public transactional data sharing system, the State Government in the Department of Information Technology & Electronics issued notification for West Bengal State Public Transactional Data Sharing Guidelines vide No 584-Estt/ITE-20012/2/2020 dated 28.12.2020. The goal is to improve participative governance – direct delivery of services to citizens, setting up a system for collaboration, decision making & innovation in delivery of services to citizens with transparency.

## Objective:

The objective of the said Guidelines is provisioning an enabling electronic system to provide conditional and supervised access to the transactional data generated by various departments/ organizations of the WB State Government in a complete anonymised form. All records that are created, handled, stored, processed by such organizations electronically or in paper form for business operations shall come under the ambit of the said guidelines and shall mandatorily remain anonymous and Personally Identifiable Information (PII) free.

## Purpose:

The IT&E Department being the nodal department of West Bengal shall develop the aforementioned electronic system. As part of the implementation procedure, it has to be ensured that the shareable data before put to use is fully anonymised by using the ‘anonymisation tool’ provided in the system.

As such, in order to develop an anonymisation tool, innovative solutions are to be sought from individuals/institutions/enterprises through projects like hackathons as it encourages participation of people from different areas of interest, and hence because of such diversity of participants many new and different ideas are born to solve a particular problem. Anonymiser Hackathon will help organizations in adopting disruptive technologies and solutions quickly and will give our country a prominence and leading edge in such initiatives of data privacy.

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Initiative by

Department of Information  
Technology & Electronics  
Government of West Bengal



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