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TECHNOLOGY INSIGHT

Unveiling the Digital India Act: A Comprehensive Reform for the Digital Era



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In a historic move, the Indian government is set to reveal the draft of the Digital India Act (DIA) in early June, marking a significant divergence from the long-standing Information Technology Act of 2000. Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Minister of State for Electronics and IT, announced that the DIA will serve as a linchpin in a comprehensive technology regulation framework, alongside bills such as the Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2022, the Indian Telecommunication Bill, 2022, and a policy addressing non-personal data governance. The DIA is more than just a legislative revision; it is deliberately designed to usher in a new era of regulation for digital services, including social media and artificial intelligence.

The DIA's principal goal is to methodically address the wide range of user problems that exist in the digital realm, from deliberate misinformation and cyberbullying to identity theft. In an era where the internet is rapidly evolving, Chandrasekhar emphasizes the importance of legislation that is adaptable and constantly adapts to emerging difficulties. The DIA is preparing to streamline procedures, foster innovation, and prevent anti-competitive activities, demonstrating its commitment to creating a secure and trustworthy digital landscape.

Furthermore, the bill's scope includes delicate issues such as ownership criteria for anonymised data, transparency standards, and monetization laws for user-generated material. As the legislation takes shape, experts, including Kazim

Rizvi of The Dialogue, underline the DIA's critical role in addressing concerns about artificial intelligence.

The act is envisioned not only as a regulatory framework, but also as a visionary roadmap, guaranteeing that AI's enormous promise is realized while limiting dangers such as algorithmic biases, user safety, privacy, and job displacement.

In summary, the Digital India Act represents a huge step in strengthening the country's digital landscape. It knits together a tapestry of policies that not only address existing concerns, but also anticipate and adapt to the changing contours of the digital frontier, propelling India into a future where innovation, security, and ethical governance coexist together.



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