

Decoding the DNA of a Data Protection OFFICER



Have you heard
about this
new role in town?

Digitization has empowered companies with data-driven technologies & customized solutions to consumers, raising the importance of data privacy. As a result, privacy regulations have also evolved, which has given rise to the pivotal role of a Data Protection Officer (DPO).

Who is a Data Protection Officer?



A DPO ensures that organizations comply with laws safeguarding individuals' personal data. Their duties include, supervising data protection efforts, conducting security audits, performing Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIAs), and serving as a Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for data protection matters. A DPO also develops and monitors policies that aim to safeguard personal data in compliance with relevant regulations.



DID YOU KNOW?

In India, organisations notified as Significant Data Fiduciary are expected to be under a legal obligation to appoint a DPO.

'Significant Data Fiduciary' means any Data Fiduciary or class of Data Fiduciaries as may be notified by the Central Government under section 10.

Why is it important to have a DPO?



To avoid

any unauthorized processing which can lead to hefty fines by supervisory authorities across jurisdictions.



To identify and mitigate

personal data-related risks, reducing the likelihood of severe breaches of obligations.



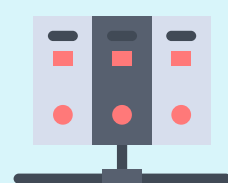
To ensure

efficient data governance, fostering transparent and accountable data handling across various internal departments in an organization.



To build

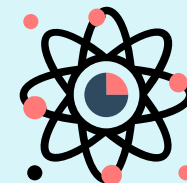
consumer trust through privacy conscious practices which will help in gaining a competitive edge by standing out from competitors.



Serve as the Data Controller or Fiduciary representative.



Be accountable to the Board of Directors or equivalent governing authority.



Address data principal grievances by being the primary POC.

What is the anatomy of a DPO?

Understand **the nature of data**, the **purpose behind it**, and its **lawful basis for processing**.

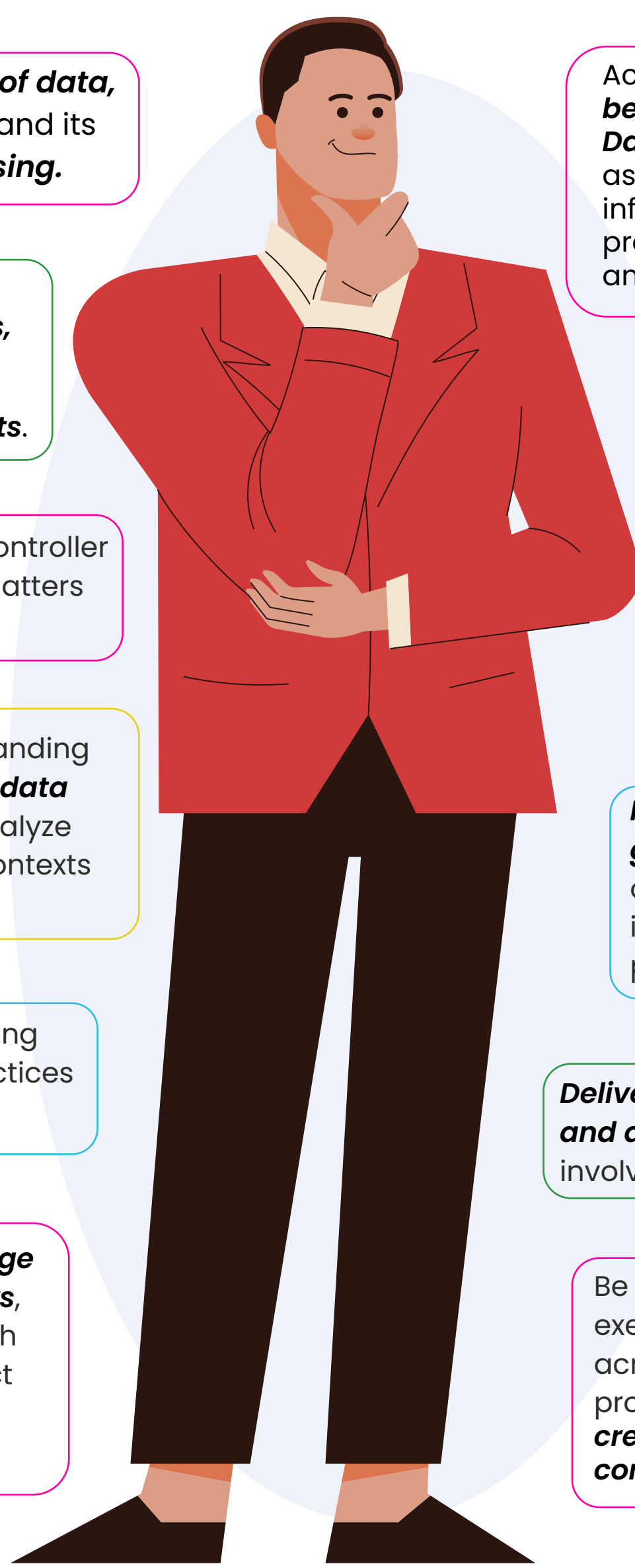
Work with key internal stakeholders to **review projects, ensure compliance with local data privacy laws and, advise on privacy impact assessments**.

Advise & inform the Data Controller and Data Processor on all matters related to data protection.

Gain a comprehensive understanding of the **overarching structure of data protection laws in India** and analyze responsibilities within various contexts & scenarios.

Bridge data silos by advocating for ethical data handling practices across the organization.

Must possess strong **knowledge of global data protection laws**, best practices, and a thorough understanding of the DPDP Act along with its associated regulations.



Act as the **point of contact between the company and the Data Protection Board** as well as individuals seeking information about the processing of their data and the exercise of their rights.

Experience in a legal, audit, compliance or risk management role.

Collaborate with the information security functions to **maintain records of all data assets and exports**.

Facilitate comprehensive data governance by advising the organization on obligations and issues related to personal data protection.

Deliver staff training, workshops, and awareness activities for those involved in data management.

Be a **dynamic data guardian** who executes privacy best practices across departments, from policies to products and aims to mitigate risks, to **create an environment of privacy consciousness**.

Explore the campaign for comprehensive information on Data Privacy:

www.dsci.in/content/data-privacy-day-2024

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