GHRF
GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHTS FRONT
— SRI LANKA —

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

DIGITAL RIGHTS AND DATA PRIVACY

YOUR DATA.
YOUR RIGHTS.
YOUR PROTECTION.

In an era where the internet and smartphones are an essential part of our daily lives, it is crucial to be aware of our rights and protection not only in the physical world but also in the digital space.

Protecting our personal information and staying safe from online harm is a fundamental right of every citizen.

YOUR RIGHTS ONLINE

1. RIGHT TO PRIVACY
You have the right to privacy in your digital communications and the protection of your personal data.

2. RIGHT TO DATA PROTECTION
Your personal information should be collected, used, and stored lawfully, fairly, and transparently.

3. RIGHT TO SECURITY
You have the right to reasonable security to protect your data from unauthorized access, misuse, or disclosure.

4. RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION
You have the right to express your opinions online, without fear of censorship or unjustified restrictions.

STAY SAFE ONLINE

- Use strong passwords and change them regularly.
- Do not share personal information with unknown sources.
- Be cautious of suspicious links and messages.
- Respect others' rights online. No to cyberbullying and harassment.
- Report any online abuse or data misuse to the relevant authorities.

THE LAW IS YOUR SHIELD
Your digital rights are human rights.
Know them.
Protect them.
Exercise them.

A SAFE DIGITAL SPACE BUILDS A SAFE SOCIETY. BE AWARE. BE RESPONSIBLE. BE PROTECTED.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS.
USE YOUR RIGHTS.
PROTECT YOUR FUTURE.

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1. DATA PRIVACY AND YOUR RIGHTS

In Sri Lanka, the protection of personal data is legally ensured by the **Personal Data Protection Act, No. 9 of 2022 (PDPA).**

This Act regulates how public institutions, banks, telecom companies, hospitals and various businesses (e-commerce) collect, use, store and share your personal data.

PDPA
ACT NO. 9 OF 2022

OBTAINING EXPLICIT CONSENT IS MANDATORY

1. COLLECTING DATA WITHOUT CONSENT IS PROHIBITED

- No organization can collect, store or sell your personal data—such as your name, phone number, NIC number, email address, bank account details, or your online browsing history—without your explicit and freely given consent.

EXAMPLES
- Sharing your data with third parties
- Using your data for advertising
- Tracking your online behaviour without permission

2. THE PURPOSE MUST BE CLEARLY EXPLAINED

- If an organization collects your data, they must clearly inform you of the specific purpose (Purpose Specification) for which it will be used.

EXAMPLE:
If they wish to use your phone number to send promotional SMS (marketing messages), they must obtain your separate consent for that purpose.

3. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO WITHDRAW CONSENT

- You have the legal right to withdraw your consent at any time and to request the organization to delete your personal data from their systems.

YOUR RIGHTS INCLUDE:
- ✔ Right to Withdraw Consent
- ✔ Right to Erasure (Right to be Forgotten)
  Your data should be deleted unless there is another legal obligation to retain it.

Your personal data belongs to you. You have the right to control how it is collected, used, stored and shared. Stay informed. Stay in control. **Stay protected.**

PROTECT YOUR DATA | KNOW YOUR RIGHTS | SPEAK UP | BUILD A SAFE DIGITAL SOCIETY

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2. CYBER HARASSMENT AND DIGITAL CRIMES

Various forms of harm targeted at individuals through social media (Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, TikTok) or other digital platforms are considered **cyber crimes** under the law.

1 CYBERBULLYING / HARASSMENT

- Insulting, threatening, humiliating, or intimidating a person online.
- Cyberstalking or repeated contact that causes fear or distress.
- Sexual harassment targeting women and children online.

EXAMPLES:
Sending abusive messages, harmful comments, spreading rumours, impersonation.

2 HATE SPEECH

- Publishing or sharing content that promotes hatred, violence, or hostility against individuals or groups.
- Based on ethnicity, religion, caste, gender identity, or other personal characteristics.

EXAMPLES:
Hate posts, inflammatory videos, or images that incite anger or violence.

3 PRIVACY VIOLATIONS

- Sharing someone's private photos, videos, or personal information without consent.
- Especially the act of sharing naked or semi-nude images/videos intentionally to harm or revenge (Revenge Porn).

EXAMPLES:
Uploading private content online, sharing personal chats or data, doxxing (revealing personal details).

**YOU HAVE RIGHTS –
AND YOU ARE PROTECTED BY LAW**

You have the right to live and communicate online without fear or harassment.

Cybercrimes are punishable under the laws of Sri Lanka.

You have the right to report and seek justice.

**REPORT IT.
STOP IT.**

If you experience or witness any form of cyber harassment or digital crime, report it to the authorities.

Police
(Cyber Crime Unit)
011 2 422 422

Emergency
Hotline
119

Online Complaint
www.police.lk

Seek support from trusted organizations and helplines.

BE SAFE ONLINE. BE RESPECTFUL.
PROTECT YOURSELF. PROTECT OTHERS.

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3. LEGAL STEPS TO TAKE IF YOU ARE VICTIM OF CYBER HARASSMENT OR DATA ABUSE

If you or someone you know is a victim of injustice in the digital space, do not stay silent. Act immediately.
Use the official mechanisms available in Sri Lanka.

ACT FAST. STAY SAFE. SEEK JUSTICE.

Do not delete evidence.
It is crucial for legal action.

Report as early as possible.
Delay can affect investigations.

You are not alone.
Help is available. Reach out for support.

1 PRESERVE EVIDENCE (First Step)

- Take screenshots of harassing posts, messages, photos or videos.
- Note down the profile links (URLs), usernames, and phone numbers.
- Do not delete the content or messages. They are important legal evidence.

Digital evidence is vital for investigations and legal actions.

2 REPORT TO SLCERT (Second Step)

SLCERT|CC
Sri Lanka Computer Emergency Readiness Team
(SLCERT)

- Report fake profiles, hacking, privacy violations or harmful content posted on social media.
- SLCERT will coordinate with the relevant social media companies to remove (take down) the harmful content.

SLCERT Contact
Website: https://www.cert.gov.lk
Email: report@cert.gov.lk
Hotline: 011 213 5454

3 FILE A COMPLAINT WITH CCID (Third Step)

CCID
CYBER CRIME INVESTIGATION DIVISION

- For serious cyber harassment, blackmailing, financial fraud, hate speech or other cyber crimes.
- Visit the Cyber Crime Investigation Division (CCID) in Colombo or email your official complaint.

Police Cyber Crime Investigation Division (CCID)
No. 36, Sri Jadevi Mawatha,
Colombo 01, Sri Lanka.
ccid.police@police.lk

4 CONTACT THE BUREAU FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN (Fourth Step)

- If the victim is a woman or a child, you can receive faster and confidential support.
- Report to the Bureau for Women and Children at Police Headquarters.

Bureau for Women and Children
Police Headquarters,
Colombo 01, Sri Lanka.
Hotline: 011 242 1111 / 119
Email: bfd@police.lk

YOUR RIGHTS ARE PROTECTED BY LAW.
SPEAK UP. REPORT IT. STOP IT.

Justice is your right

Your data is your identity

Respect online. Respect others.

Silence protects the abuser.

You have the right to be safe online.

REPORT IT. STOP IT.
If you experience or witness any form of cyber abuse or data misuse, report it to the right authorities.

SLCERT
report@cert.gov.lk
https://www.cert.gov.lk
011 213 5454

CCID
ccid.police@police.lk
No. 36, Sri Jadevi Mawatha,
Colombo 01.
011 2 421 421

Women & Children Bureau
bfd@police.lk
011 242 1111 / 119

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4. OFFICIAL CONTACT NUMBERS AND CONNECTIONS

INSTITUTION	HOW TO CONTACT	MAIN ROLE
Police Cyber Crime Investigation Division (CCID)	011 2676269 / 011 2984605	Arresting cyber criminals and taking legal action.
Sri Lanka CERT	011 2691692 report@cert.gov.lk	Providing technical support and assisting in the removal of fake accounts.
Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka (ICTA)	www.icta.lk	Guidance on digital policies and citizen rights.
Police Emergency Hotline	119	For any emergency criminal situation.

DO NOT STAY SILENT.
REPORT. SEEK HELP. STAY SAFE.
Your safety and your rights matter.

Preserve evidence | Report immediately | Seek official assistance | Justice is your right | Support is available

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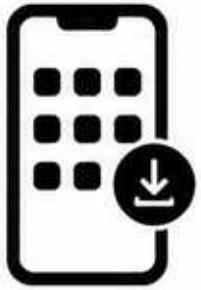
3 QUICK TIPS TO STAY SAFE IN THE DIGITAL SPACE

1 PASSWORD SECURITY

Use strong and unique passwords for your social media and email accounts.
Always enable Two-Factor Authentication (2FA) for extra security.

STRONG PASSWORDS + 2FA
= STRONG PROTECTION

2 AVOID UNNECESSARY APP INSTALLATIONS



Be careful when installing apps. Check the permissions (Contacts, Photos, Location) they ask for.
Avoid using apps that request unnecessary access to your data.

CHECK PERMISSIONS.
PROTECT YOUR PRIVACY.

3 DON'T SHARE PERSONAL INFORMATION PUBLICLY

Do not share your home address, travel plans, bank card photos, or other sensitive information on social media.
Think before you post!

THINK. PROTECT.
DON'T OVERSHARE.

> **Your digital footprints are your identity.**
> Protect the privacy of your digital footprints and respect the rights of others.
> **It's our responsibility as digital citizens!**

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