Session 7: Data Management, privacy and analytics

Aditya Chunekar
Praybas (Energy Group)

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Prayas (Energy Group)

• Not-for-profit organization founded in 1994
• **Analysis based policy advocacy for promoting public interest.**
• **Focus on governance aspects & policy innovation**
• Extensive engagement with civil society groups, peoples’ movements, consumers groups and media.
Key Points

• Issues related to data privacy and security are complex with significant impact on consumers
• Data Protection policy is necessary before a widespread roll-out of smart meters
• Ministry of Power (MoP) should issue a white paper on data privacy and data sharing protocols with inputs from multiple stakeholders
Defining consumer rights

• Data Collection
  – Choice: smart/conventional, prepaid/postpaid, and frequency of data collection

• Data Use
  – Different levels of consumer rights to privacy depending upon the data collected, how is the data used, who is using the data, and for what purpose
Smart meters data

• Operational data
  – Event data used by DISCOMs to identify theft, power interruptions etc.

• Consumption data
  – Periodic data (15 min/30 min/60 min) data on consumption and other related parameters
  – Personal data and can reveal home occupancy patterns, household composition, income levels, celebration moments, as well as religion.
Levels of anonymization

- DISCOM level anonymization
- Cluster level anonymization
- Personal identification with consumer consent
Who can use the data for what purpose?

- Consumers can use the data to reduce their bills
- DISCOMs can use the data for operational purposes
- Academia and civil society organizations can use the data for research purposes
- Third party vendors can use the data and provide customised energy services
- Marketing agencies
- Law enforcement agencies
Ensuring Consumer rights

- Consumers need to opt-in for all the data sharing consents
- Consumer should know whom the data is being shared with
- Consumers should be allowed to change their options
- A secure data sharing protocol required to share this data with different actors for different purposes
- Regular audits required to make sure this system is working
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THANK YOU

www.prayaspune.org/peg
www.watchyourpower.org
aditya@prayaspune.org