



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

GAD-Covid-19 - containment activities- involving Sprinklr Inc. for the purpose of big data analysis- issues raised in the public domain- committee constituted to inquire in to the issues- orders issued

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (SECRET SECTION) DEPARTMENT

GO (Ms) No. 79/2020/GAD

Dated, Thiruvananthapuram 20/04/2020

ORDER

The State Government accords foremost priority to prevent the community spread of the COVID-19 virus. Predictive models using statistical techniques warned of a possible worst-case scenario in which the number of COVID-19 infections in the State could go up to 8-10 lakh in a short period of time.

2. In these circumstances, the Department of Information Technology, Government of Kerala initiated steps to set up a Data Analytics Platform to integrate data from various sources available in the Government, agencies and from the field so as to meet the exigency of a massive and unprecedented surge of the epidemic. The above arrangements made by the Department of Information technology included utilization of services of Sprinklr Inc., a US based company for the purpose of big data analysis.

3. Subsequently, certain issues have been raised in the public domain so as to whether the arrangements made with the above US based company was in accordance with laid-down procedure and done after taking necessary safeguards to protect the privacy of citizens' data.

4. The Government, therefore, are pleased to constitute a two member Expert Committee with Shri M Madhavan Nambiar IAS (Retd.), former Civil Aviation Secretary & former Special Secretary Information Technology, Government of India as Chairman and Shri Rajeev Sadanandan IAS (Retd.), former Additional Chief Secretary (Health & Family Welfare Department), Government of Kerala as member, to get the above issues and other relevant aspects examined.

5. The Committee shall examine the following:

1. Whether the privacy of personal and sensitive data of individuals has been adequately protected under the agreements entered into with Sprinklr Inc.?
2. Whether adequate procedures have been followed while finalizing the arrangements with Sprinklr Inc.?
3. Whether deviations, if any, are fair, justified and reasonable considering the extraordinary and critical situation the State was facing at the relevant period?
4. Any other suggestions for future guidance.

6. The committee should submit its report to Government within a month. Necessary technical and secretarial assistance to the committee will be provided by Indian Institute of Information Technology & Management- Kerala (IIITM-K), Thiruvananthapuram.

(By order of the Governor)

TOM JOSE
CHIEF SECRETARY

To

Shri M Madhavan Nambiar IAS (Retd.), Chairman, Expert Committee
Shri Rajeev Sadanandan IAS (Retd.), Member, Expert Committee
Additional Chief Secretary, Home & Vigilance Dept.
Principal Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department
Secretary, Electronics & Information Technology Department
The Director, IIITM-K, Thiruvananthapuram

Copy to:

The Private Secretary to Chief Minister
The Special Secretary to Chief Secretary
PA to Principal Secretary, GAD

Forwarded/By order



SECTION OFFICER