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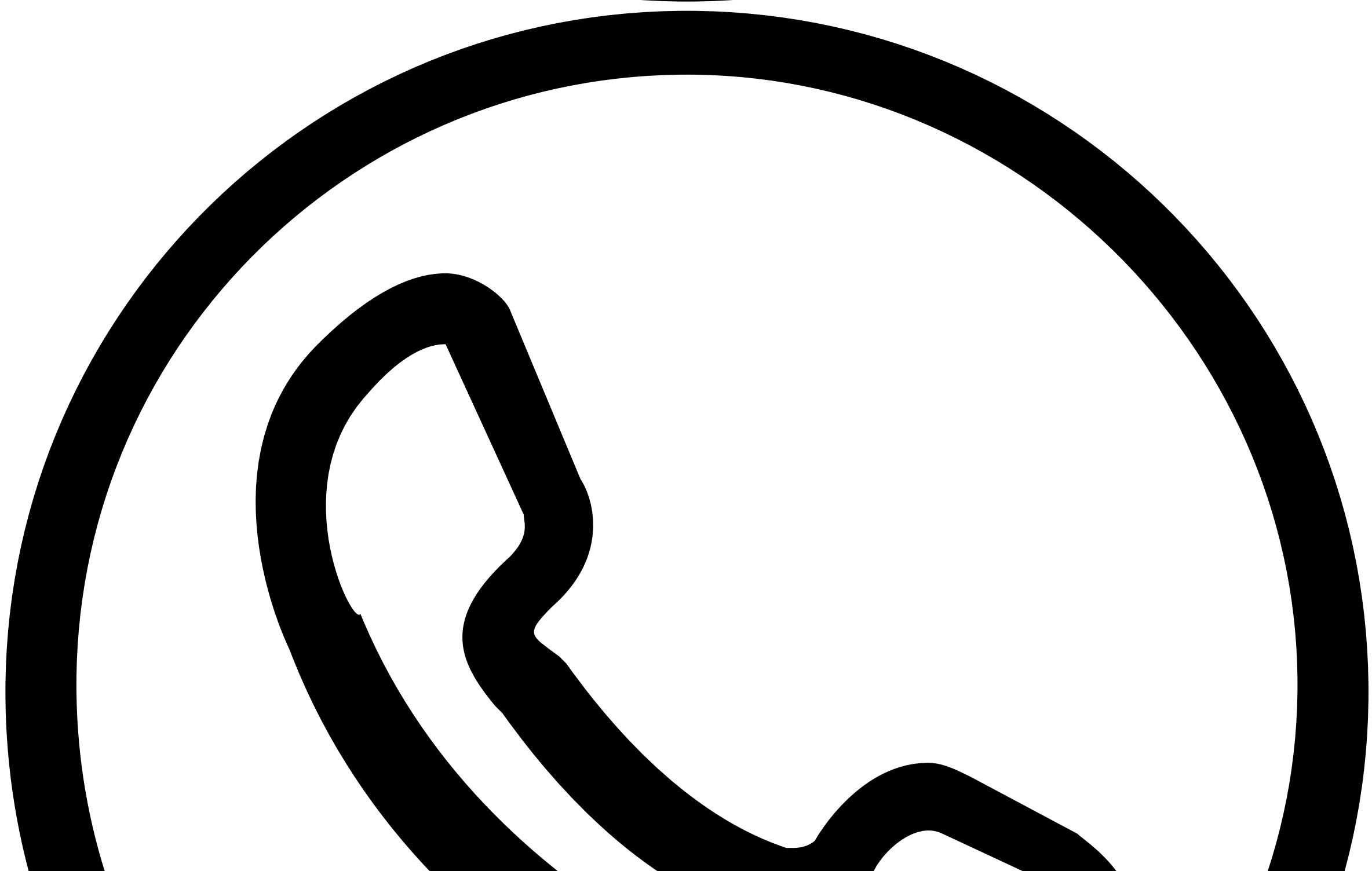
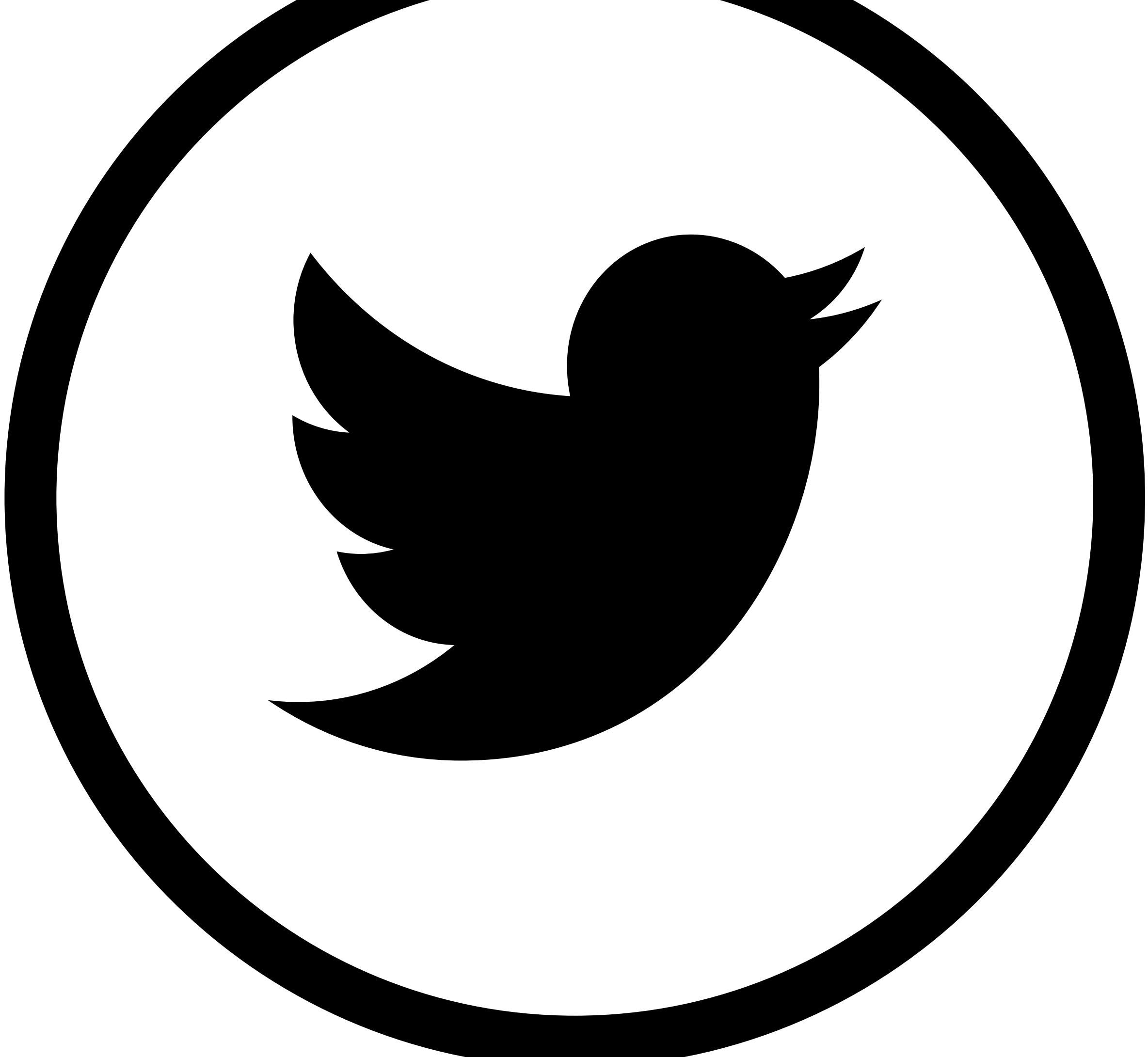
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HOW TO



AADHAAR PRIVACY ISSUES EXTEND BEYOND THE SECURITY OF ITS BIOMETRIC DATABASE



There is a robust need for safeguarding our data and own responsibility for it.



ABHISHEK PURI SEP 25, 2018 19:30:00 IST

Editor's note: This copy was published on 30 July, 2018. It is being republished in light of the Supreme Court's verdict on the constitutionality of Aadhaar likely being pronounced tomorrow.

The weekend saw a sharp exchange of tweets between our soon-to-retire telecom regulatory chief Mr R.S. Sharma and advocates of privacy. He is an unabashed believer in the security of Aadhaar. This, for the uninitiated, is like a social security number that is now being linked to everything under the sun — bank records, financial statements, income tax returns, phone numbers and even competitive examinations.

Sharma has claimed, and he's probably right, that no harm could come to him if his Aadhaar details were to be made public. This has been consistently echoed by UIDAI, which claims a "security perimeter" around the collected biometrics of every individual in the Indian subcontinent. As such, Aadhaar represents the most massive honeypot of sensitive biometrics ever compiled on the planet. This author takes the government's claims on the security of the biometric database, and the claims that said database has never been breached, at face value.



A woman goes through the process of finger scanning for the Unique Identification (UID) database system, Aadhaar, at a registration centre in New Delhi, India. Image: Reuters

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However, hacking the database is not really required for Aadhaar to be a privacy concern. It is unlikely that prominent public figures like Sharma or Amitabh Bachchan will “suffer” from identity thefts. It is the ordinary Indian who is spammed by text and email when their privacy is compromised. Worse still, they could get [phished](#).

Knowing just the Aadhaar number isn't the destination. It is a starting point to [identity theft](#).



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It is hardly to be expected that everyone in a nation that's only now at the cusp of a digital revolution would be aware of the importance and need for protecting privacy. The intent of this write up is to document a robust need for safeguarding our data and own responsibility for it. In a democracy, everyone has the right to broadcast their details as they deem fit. However, for a vast majority, these come with severe real-life repercussions for which we must be adequately prepared. Indians have been cavalier about privacy because of prevailing socio-economic constructs. They open up to random strangers and freely discuss their medical issues. Phone numbers are given out quickly for offers and cashback. Privacy is an abstract concept (like health). Users don't realise its value until it vanishes. However, by then, it is usually too late.

The scale of identity theft worldwide is mind-boggling; however, sparse data on this exists in India. We are close to finishing the first quarter of the 21st century, and scamsters have rapidly evolved with the times. The phone number has emerged as a single point of identification for most of us. We use it for everything from banks, who send a text message for one-time passwords, to online services like email and social media that use it to identify us and secure our accounts. Inherent to this trust mechanism is the assumption that the user is in control of their phone number.

Herein lies the problem. Phone numbers can be cloned by a technique known as [**SIM hijacking**](#). A phisher (as these scamsters are usually called) induce a state of panic by claiming that essential services will be blocked if they are not given your SIM card details, for example. These methods are not always successful, and they don't always have to be. Going through a list of harvested phone numbers (often gleaned from WhatsApp groups) also takes persistence and time.

As such, this has rapidly evolved to sending a series of text messages with links to a fraudulent website (by using link shortening services to hide the fake address) and creating a look-alike website that captures your credentials details. A person is effectively “pwned”, their credentials stolen and subsequently, the victim's social media accounts and email is then at the mercy of the attacker.



@kingslyj @kingslyj · Jul 28, 2018



Replying to @kingslyj
Walk your talk @rssharma3!

Publish your Aadhaar details to the public if you have so much trust in this 13ft wall secured system.theprint.in/governance/wha...



What harm can you do to me if you have my Aadhar?

As the debate intensifies before the Supreme Court judgment, the outgoing Trai chairman says Aadhaar
theprint.in



RS Sharma

@rssharma3

Bank accounts are especially vulnerable points of failure. Most bank accounts do not provide a more robust two-factor authentication like **YubiKeys**, which are physical tokens for account authentication. Most banks deal with numerous third-party companies whose security credentials may not be as robust as the controlling entity itself as they lack the **motivation to invest in secure and scalable systems**. Phone numbers linked to WhatsApp and Instagram are even worse. After cloning the mobile phone number, these accounts can be switched to a new device with devastating results for the victim. With simple-to-setup payment systems now coming arriving on such apps, one can imagine the damage that could be caused. More commonly, **women get affected by these scams** where morphed pictures and false allegations are levied on them. This has a cascading effect on their psyche with often no recourse in the legal system. Long-term psychological effects are unknown. All of this with a simple phone number.



Elliot Alderson

@fs0c131y



The phone number linked to this #Aadhaar number is 9958587977 [twitter.com/rssharma3/stat...](https://twitter.com/rssharma3/status/987000000000000000)

RS Sharma @rssharma3

Replying to @kingslyj

My Aadhaar number is 7621 7768 2740
Now I give this challenge to you: Show me one concrete example where you can do any harm to me!

8,262 5:55 PM - Jul 28, 2018



5,933 people are talking about this



There is also a thriving market for pre-activated prepaid SIM cards that often sell for a higher value than the regular numbers. It is usually done by unscrupulous dealers who harvest the details from

property records and convert existing biometric information ([like thumbprints](#) to a polymer-based system) that is recognised by the fingerprint reader supplied for identity verification. Many users are unaware that Aadhaar offers a method to lock biometrics, but that is now moot.

[Editor's note: Users on Twitter have claimed to have discovered Sharma's phone number, gmail ID, PAN card, bank account number and a few other details using the [Aadhaar number he gave out](#).]

Last but not the least is the proliferation of payment wallet apps. They require your phone number to get verified and linked to your bank account. These applications do not require two-factor authentication for transfers, nor are they have been mandated to do so. [A spate of financial fraud has been perpetuated](#) (which are out of scope here), but all of them are not reported in the public domain.

RS Sharma @rssharma3 · Jul 28, 2018

Replying to @kingslyj

My Aadhaar number is 7621 7768 2740

Now I give this challenge to you: Show me one concrete example where you can do any harm to me!

Rahul Dhiman @enggdhiman

Sorry for this Sir, But this is only for educational purpose. I made a FAKE aadhar of yours and uploaded to Facebook and Amazon Cloud Services, And what both of them accepted this as a proof of identity. I may use Amazon Services and Facebook ads service on your name now.

As the thrust on digital India grows, it is essential to bring in stronger safeguards. In addition to legislation, the onus is on companies for fraud detection and reporting it in the public domain. Users should also understand the risks associated with phone numbers, or else we will soon see the [digital apocalypse](#). A loss of privacy, however slight, is nothing to scoff at.



Karan Saini
@squeal



Thanks to this, I now know that you have an Airtel phone number attached to your Aadhaar (99XX5XX977)
[twitter.com/rssharma3/stat...](https://twitter.com/rssharma3/status/983441111111111111)

RS Sharma @rssharma3

Replies to @kingslyj

My Aadhaar number is 7621 7768 2740

Now I give this challenge to you: Show me one concrete example where you can do any harm to me!

565 5:17 PM - Jul 28, 2018



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What is the way out? A superior alternative to *WhatsApp* is *Telegram* that also ships with secure two-factor authentication. A user's phone number isn't displayed in random groups or channels (which work as a public broadcast feature). It would also be prudent to delete your social media profiles because these networks, despite their claims of "improving networking and productivity", bring more harm than good.

The old-fashioned word of mouth recommendation works best. Users also need to learn about using unique passwords for every account with password managers like *1Password* and physical token keys like Yubikeys. Be aware, while these recommendations may sound tedious, remember that the costs associated with identity theft are more onerous.

It all starts with a simple phone number!

Dr Abhishek Puri is a practising Radiation Oncologist with a keen interest in technology and privacy.

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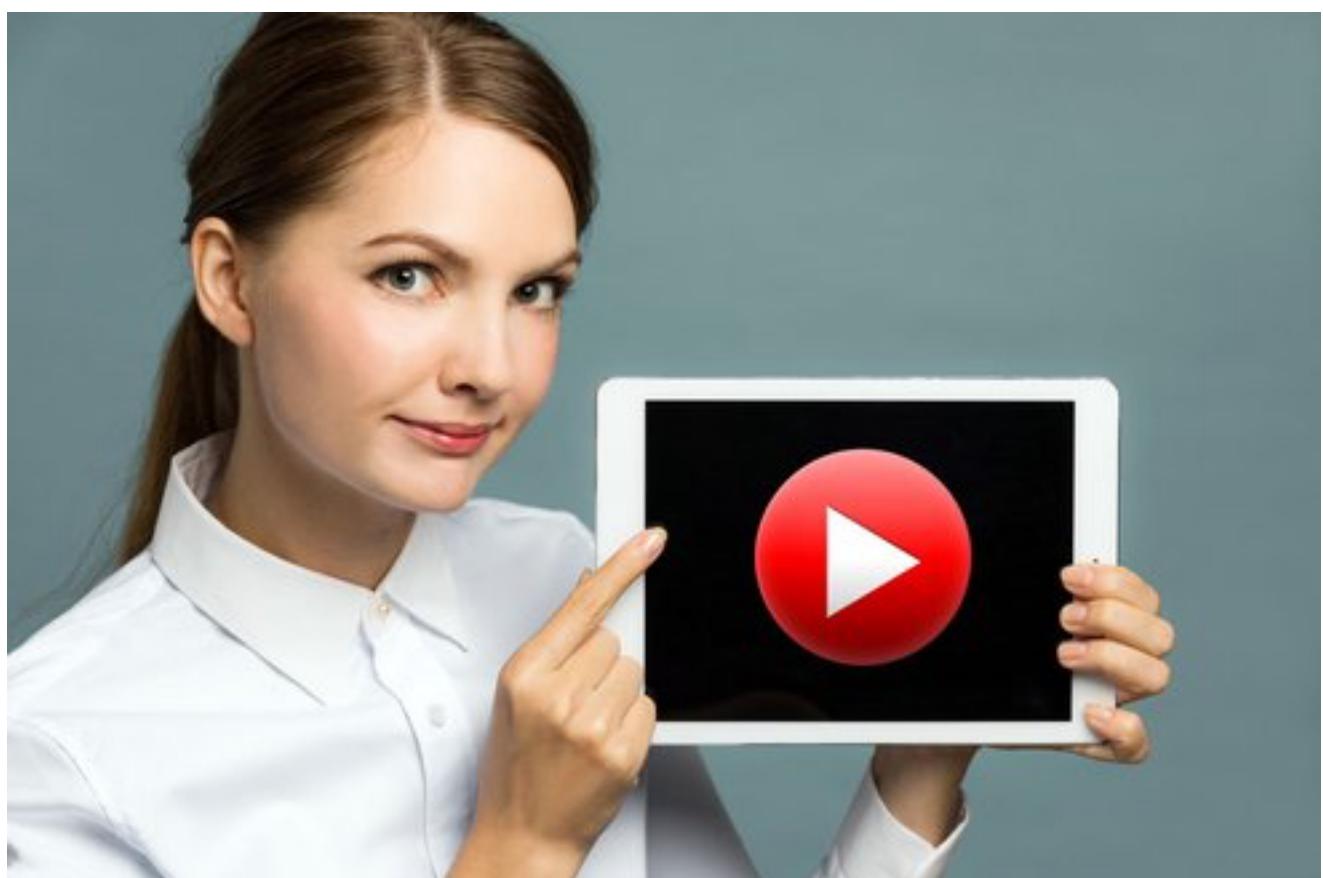
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WE WILL NEVER FORGIVE YOU IF YOU FAIL TO ACT ON CLIMATE CHANGE: GRETA THUNBERG AT THE UN CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT



Thunberg issued a warning to leaders on behalf of millions of youth, asking how they could look away when the science has been crystal clear for over 30 years.



[TECH2 NEWS STAFF](#) SEP 23, 2019 22:19:37 IST



Swedish teen [climate activist Greta Thunberg](#) delivered a powerful and emotionally-charged speech at the United Nations Climate Action Summit in New York Monday. Thunberg told member nations participating at the Summit that the young generation will "never forgive" them if they fail to act on climate change deftly.

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"I shouldn't be standing here. I should be back in school on the other side of the ocean," she started. Thunberg then went on to speak about how her dreams and childhood have been stolen due to the empty words of world leaders on climate change.

"Entire ecosystems are collapsing. We are in the beginning of mass extinction. And all you can talk about is money and fairytales of eternal economic growth. How dare you!" she said, displeased with the efforts of world powers in combating climate change.



'How dare you?' Greta Thunberg challenges world leaders, with an impassioned plea for climate action at the UN Climate Action Summit 2019. AP

(Also Read: [Need, not greed, has been India's guiding principle: PM Narendra Modi Full Speech at UN Climate Action Summit 2019](#))

World leaders have agreed to cut down emissions by half in the next 10 years, but Thunberg has said that it will give us only a 50 percent chance of keeping global temperatures from rising above 1.5 degrees celsius.

"Maybe 50 percent is acceptable to you. But those numbers don't include tipping points, most feedback loops, additional warming hidden by toxic air pollution or the aspects of justice and equity. They also rely on my and my children's generation sucking hundreds of billions of tonnes of CO₂ out of the air with technologies that barely exist. So a 50 percent risk is simply not acceptable to us – we who have to live with the consequences," she said.



Greta Thunberg @GretaThunberg



On my way to the United Nations. Today I'm speaking in the General Assembly at the Climate Action Summit. This is such a crucial day, world leaders are gathering at the UN in New York to decide on our future. The eyes of the world will be upon them.



145K 6:24 PM - Sep 23, 2019



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Greta also said in her speech that the numbers surrounding the amount of permissible carbon emissions are too uncomfortable for world leaders and that they are "still not mature enough to tell it like it is."



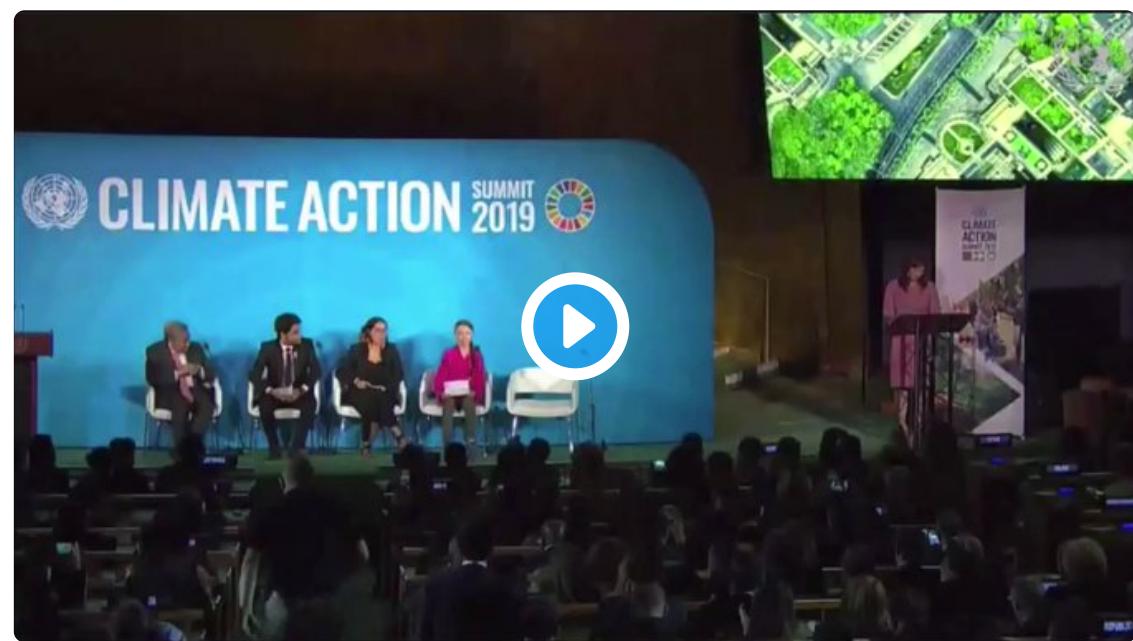
UN Foundation

@unfoundation



"For more than 30 years the science has been crystal clear, how dare you continue to look away?"

At the [@UN #ClimateAction](#) Summit, [@GretaThunberg](#) issued a warning to leaders on behalf of millions of young people around the world: We will be watching. [#ActNow](#)



♡ 66 9:33 PM - Sep 23, 2019



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"For more than 30 years the science has been crystal clear, how dare you continue to look away?"

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— UN Foundation (@unfoundation) [September 23, 2019](#)

"The eyes of all future generations are upon you. And if you choose to fail us I say we will never forgive you. We will not let you get away with this. Right here, right now is where we draw the line," said Greta, concluding here speech.

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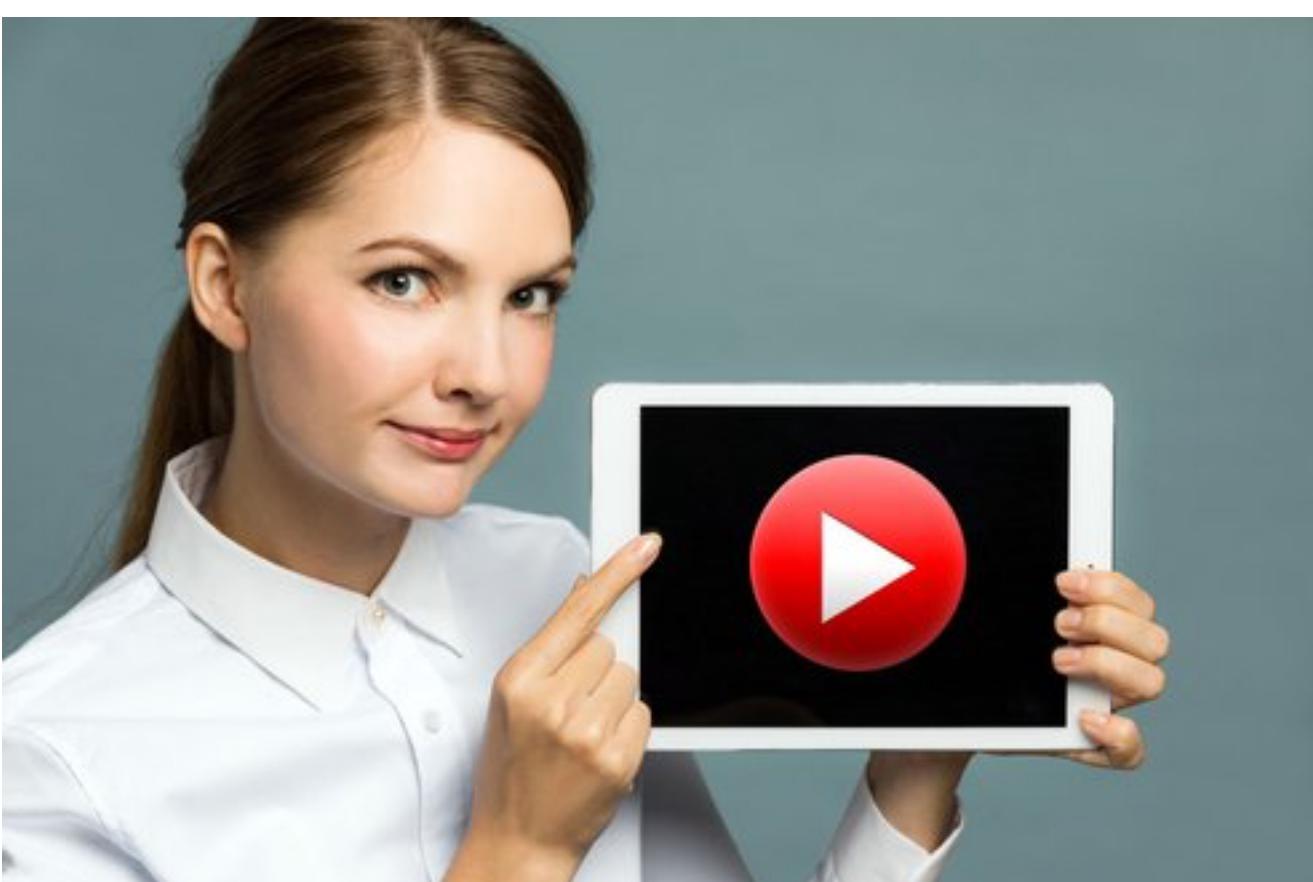
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NEED, NOT GREED, HAS BEEN INDIA'S GUIDING PRINCIPLE: PM NARENDRA MODI FULL SPEECH AT UN CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT 2019



PM Modi invited UN member states to join India's initiative Coalition for Disaster Resistance Infrastructure to build climate resilience.



[TECH2 NEWS STAFF](#) SEP 23, 2019 21:45:07 IST



Prime Minister Narendra Modi was among the first speakers at the United Nations Climate Action Summit opening ceremony, held in New York on 23 August. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called on world leaders to bring forth their concrete plans, and ambitious actions to solve the climate crisis.



PM Modi opened by acknowledging that the problem of climate change is a significant and difficult problem to address and that there isn't enough being done to solve it head-on. India has come with more than words/talk, we have come with a strategy and a roadmap, PM Modi said.

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He also addressed targets and milestones India has set in renewable fuels, water conservation and management, e-mobility and reducing the country's collective dependence on single-use plastic.



"I thank the UN Secretary-General for inviting me to speak today.

"Last year, after I was awarded the Champion of the Earth award, I am speaking here at the UN for the first time. And I'm happy to be talking about climate action today. There is a lot of work being done around the world to address climate change. But we also have to accept that to meet this big challenge head-on, there isn't enough being done to solve this challenge as there should."

"What we need is a comprehensive approach that considers education, values, and lifestyle, but also development and philosophy. We need a revolution to create a behavioural change in people. It has been our responsibility and duty to protect the world's natural resources, and this is also part of our culture and belief. Need not greed has been our guiding principle. So India has come with more than words/talk, we have come with a strategy and a roadmap. We believe that an ounce of practise is worth more than a tonne of preaching."

"We are increasing our dependence on non-fossil fuel sources of energy. By 2020, we intend to increase our renewable capacity to 175 Gigawatt, and we are working to further increase it to 450 Gigawatt capacity in the future. In our investments, we are giving e-mobility priority."

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"We are making a lot of advances towards large-scale mixing of petrol and diesel with biofuel. We have given 150 million families access to clean cooking gas connection.

"We have increased our commitment to water conservation, rainwater harvesting and water resource development with the start of Mission Jal Jeevan, and we plan to further invest a 50 billion USD in



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Will MortaL return to E-Sports?



this program in the future."

"Excellencies, if we speak of our international presence, over 100 countries are now connected with our solar panel network. India and Sweden along with various partners are launching a leadership group for the industry transition track. This pioneering effort is bringing together the government and the informal sector to bring low-carbon pathway solutions to polluting industries."

"To build resilient infrastructure and to better equip ourselves to face natural disasters, India has founded the Coalition for Disaster Resistance Infrastructure. I invite all member states of the UN to join this effort."

"This year, on 15 August, India's Independence Day, we took a nation-wide stand against single-use plastic. We expect that this will go a long way in reducing our collective dependence on single-use plastic."

"Excellencies, I am happy to share with you that in this UN building, we will inaugurate solar panels made and installed by India tomorrow.

The time for talking is over. The world needs to act now.

Thank you, thank you very much."

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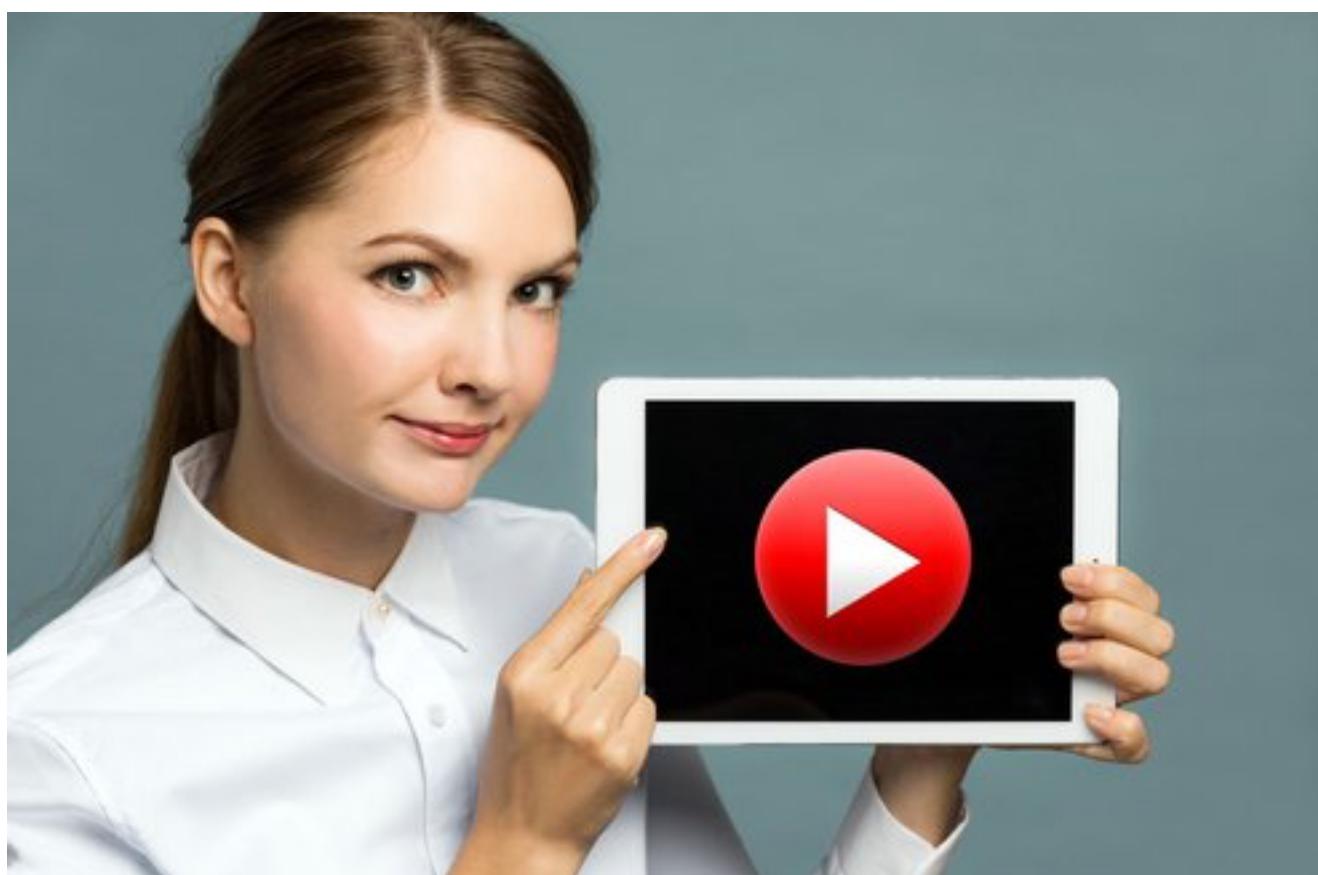




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PUBG MOBILE INDIA TOUR 2019: FOUR MORE TEAMS QUALIFY FROM THE PUNE FINALS



The regional finale which took place at the Shree Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex Stadium in Pune.



TECH2 NEWS STAFF SEP 23, 2019 21:08:47 IST

LATEST VIDEOS



The third regional finals for the ongoing [PUBG Mobile India Tour 2019](#) have concluded today and we now have four more teams joining the eight already selected to battle it out for a massive 1.5 crore prize pool at the grand finals in Kolkata. The regional finals took place at the Shree Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex Stadium in Pune and like the two other regional finals it also featured the top 20 teams of the region.



God's Reign.

There were over 425,000 games played by 70,000 registrations and in the end, the top 20 teams played five rounds which were played across all the maps in the game. The final four teams to qualify were:

- **God's Reign**
- **Team Mayhem**
- **Orange Rock**
- **Instinct shooters official**

Team Instinct Shooter official won the first round and the second round was won by Team Mayhem. God's Reign won both the third and the fourth round. God's Reign, Team Mayhem, Orange Rock and Instinct shooters official from Group C (Pune) will now join Rising Hydra, Team Titans, Kill2Survive, Revenge Esports, 8Bit Rampage, TeamINS, Team GE and Team All-Stars who had qualified from the other two regional finals.

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TEAM MAYHEM



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ONEPLUS CEO PETE LAU REVEALS THE NEW RED COLOURED BOX FOR THE ONEPLUS 7T



OnePlus has said that the redesign was engineered by OnePlus Creative Director, Mats Hakansson.



TECH2 NEWS STAFF

SEP 23, 2019 20:34:01 IST

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As we approach closer to the [launch of the OnePlus 7T smartphone](#), the company is releasing tidbits about the phone on its social media channels. The latest comes from a tweet by OnePlus CEO Pete Lau who has given us a glimpse of what the box of the device is going to look like.



OnePlus 7T box.

The photo attached in the tweet is that of a completely red box which is reminiscent of the OnePlus One box. "Red and bold, a return to the OnePlus One's visual design," said Pete Lau in his tweet. OnePlus has said that the redesign was engineered by OnePlus Creative Director, Mats Hakansson.

OnePlus 7T specs

According to a recent [report by Compareraja](#), the OnePlus 7T will be powered by the Snapdragon 855+ SoC and will offer up to 8 GB RAM and 256 GB storage. The smartphone is expected to feature a 6.55-

inch FHD+ AMOLED display with a 90-Hz refresh rate and an in-display fingerprint sensor.

In the camera department, the smartphone is now confirmed to feature a triple rear camera setup that will reportedly have a 48 MP primary sensor, 16 MP ultra-wide sensor, and a 12 MP telephoto sensor. On the front, there could be a 16 MP camera for selfies.

The smartphone is expected to feature a 3,800 mAh battery with Warp Charge 30T. It is likely to run on Android 10-based OxygenOS.

OnePlus 7T Pro specifications

Further, the report also suggests that the OnePlus 7T Pro may feature a 6.65-inch QHD+ AMOLED display with a 90-Hz refresh rate and in-display fingerprint sensor. This smartphone is also expected to be powered by the Snapdragon 855+ SoC and run on OxygenOS based on Android 10.

The OnePlus 7T Pro is likely to offer up to 8 GB RAM and 256 GB internal storage. In terms of camera, the handset might sport a triple rear camera setup with a 48 MP primary sensor, an 8 MP telephoto with 3x zoom and a 16 MP ultra-wide sensor. On the front, the smartphone might feature a 16 MP camera for selfies. It could be fuelled by a 4,085 mAh battery with Warp Charge 30T charging support.



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