Right to Privacy Part - II

Click here for Part - I

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Why in news?

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The Supreme Court is hearing case regarding the right to privacy.

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Will Supreme Court's judgement on 'Right to Privacy' stop AADHAR?

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- The heart of discussion should be on whether Aadhaar and the 'data' that it collects is an invasion of that right to privacy.
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- Even if the right to privacy is judged as a fundamental right, it has to be proved that the UIDAI data actually invades privacy.
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Why AADHAR is not detrimental?

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- If the bank account is linked to Aadhaar and transactions are done via BHIM app, it is the bank that has the data, not the UIDAI.
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- Same is the case for mutual fund transaction where the mutual fund or the property registry that has the details.
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- People often gave details of their voter IDs or passports while making these transactions. If that didn't mean that the Election Commission had a financial profile of users, same logic should apply for Aadhar.
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- The GST alone will provide one billion records each month on items being

bought/sold. Various open source apps are being built by using the data. This quashes the argument that the data is being monopolised by UIDAI.
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- Google or Facebook that collects information based on browsing history has more data about an individual than UIDAI.
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- Once all government departments have managed to digitise their archives, all data about an individual including all financial records can be made available at single place using Unique ID.
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What is the way ahead?

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- BigData and Aadhaar could be used to keep women secure. e.g When a cab driver voluntarily gives his Unique ID, any person getting into a cab can check the background of the driver beforehand.
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- Instead of data being owned by data companies like Google or Facebook, if there was a law to ensure it stayed with users and the users got to decide what do to with it, the possibilities are immense.
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\n**Source: The Financial Express**

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