

Protect personal data, say experts

BY OUR CORRESPONDENT

BENGALURU

Oct. 17: Lack of knowledge on the importance of protecting personal data has put thousands of people into trouble. Experts in cyber laws have pressed for a comprehensive right to privacy act with reasonable restrictions.

In a day seminar on 'privacy rights and data protection in cyber space', organised by the digital society foundation of India and Karnataka Institution for Law and Parliamentary Affairs, resource persons from various fields batted for a comprehensive right to privacy act.

Professor at National Law School Dr V. Vijaykumar

said that all these years the apex court had been issuing guidelines on the right to privacy based on a few provisions in the Constitution. However,

everyday a common man's personal detail is taken and used for commercial purposes. "While visiting an exhibition people give away

personal details at some counter for lucky draw. This information, sometimes of lakhs people, reach several organisations for commercial purposes. And, people fall prey to credit card and other frauds. The value of personal details is still not considered supreme here," he

said. Mr. Vijaykumar said the Personal Data Protection bill, before Parliament has been prepared after taking cue from a similar ac

in UK. "In 2002 thousands of Canadians sue the government after a hard disk containing personal data of residents were found in a dustbin. The



European governments collect personal data from residents with the guarantee not leaking it. At the same time, reasonable restrictions on such privilege privacy is also clearly mentioned. These restrictions are quite similar to that the Indian constitution," he said.