

[recovered from the vector store — section33.html p.1]

Section 33 DPDPA

Penalties. 33.1) If the Board determines on conclusion of an inquiry that breach of the provisions of this Act or the rules made thereunder by a person is significant, it may, after giving the person an opportunity of being heard, impose such monetary penalty specified in the Schedule. (2) While determining the amount of monetary penalty to be imposed under sub-section (1), the Board shall have regard to the following matters, namely:—

(a) the nature, gravity and duration of the breach; (b) the type and nature of the personal data affected by the breach; (c) repetitive nature of the breach; (d) whether the person, as a result of the breach, has realised a gain or avoided any loss; (e) whether the person took any action to mitigate the effects and consequences of the breach, and the timeliness and effectiveness of such action; (f) whether the monetary penalty to be imposed is proportionate and effective, having regard to the need to secure observance of and deter breach of the provisions of this Act; and

(g) the likely impact of the imposition of the monetary penalty on the person. ← Section 32 DPDPA
Section 34 DPDPA →

DPDPA

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Comprehensive Legal Interpretation of Section 33 & The Schedule of the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023

"Let the punishment fit the crime." - W.S. Gilbert, The Mikado (adapted for data protection)

Section 33(1). If the Board is satisfied that there is a contravention of the provisions of this Act or rules made thereunder, it may, after giving a reasonable opportunity of being heard to the concerned parties, impose a penalty on a Data Fiduciary in

[recovered from the vector store — section33.html p.2]

accordance with the provisions of the Schedule.

Section 33(2). While determining the quantum of penalty under sub-section (1), the Board shall have due regard to the following factors, namely:—

the nature, gravity and duration of the contravention;

the type and nature of personal data affected by such contravention;

the repetitive nature of the contravention;

the gains made or loss caused, as a result of such contravention;

whether remedial action was taken swiftly after the contravention came to the notice of the Data Fiduciary; and

such other factors as the Board considers necessary.

Section 33(3). The Board may reduce or, as the case may be, enhance the penalty to the extent of twice the quantum of the penalty, after considering the factors specified in sub-section (2).

Section 33(4). The penalty under this section shall be without prejudice to any other action that may be taken in accordance with other provisions of this Act or any other law for the time being in force.

THE SCHEDULE

(See Section 33)

Penalties for Contravention by Data Fiduciary

Item | Contravention | Penalty (₹ Crores)

1 | Contravention of provisions of sections 4 to 12 and section 14 | Up to ₹200 crores

2 | Failure to take reasonable security safeguards under section 8(5) | Up to ₹200 crores

3 | Failure to intimate the Board and affected Data Principals about personal data breach under section 8(6) | Up to ₹200 crores

4 | Failure to appoint Data Protection Officer and publish contact information under section 10 | Up to ₹10 crores

5 | Failure to publish business contact information under section 9(1)(c) | Up to ₹10 crores

6 | Failure to undertake Data Protection Impact Assessment or Data Protection Audit under section 10(1)(b) or (c) | Up to ₹50 crores

7 | Failure to provide information to the Board under section 32(2) | Up to ₹10 crores

8 | Failure to comply with the directions issued by the Board under section 34 | Up to ₹250 crores

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[recovered from the vector store — section33.html p.3]

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Comparative Analysis: GDPR, CCPA Penalties

1. Executive Summary: India's Strict Penalty Regime

Section 33 + The Schedule create one of the world's strictest data protection penalty regimes. 🇮🇳 The Numbers That Matter

Maximum Penalties:

₹500 crores (\$60 million) - Highest possible (₹250 crores × 2 multiplier)

₹250 crores (\$30 million) - Failing to comply with Board directions

₹200 crores (\$24 million) - Violating core rights (Sections 4-12)

₹50 crores (\$6 million) - Failing DPIA/Audit (SDFs)

₹10 crores (\$1.2 million) - Administrative failures

For Context:

GDPR Maximum: €20 million or 4% of global turnover (whichever is higher)

CCPA Maximum: \$7,500 per intentional violation, \$2,500 per unintentional

DPDPA Maximum: ₹500 crores FLAT (not turnover-based)

Key Difference: DPDPA penalties are ABSOLUTE amounts, not percentage of revenue.
This means:

🇮🇳 Small companies: Proportionally huge impact (could be bankruptcy)

🇮🇳 Large companies: Capped amount (may be manageable)

🇮🇳🇮🇳 No "ability to pay" discount for small entities

1.1 Who Can Be Penalized?

Target: ONLY Data Fiduciaries

Important:

🇮🇳 Data Fiduciaries CAN be penalized

🇮🇳 Data Processors CANNOT be penalized directly (but Fiduciary responsible for processor violations)

❓ Data Principals CANNOT be penalized (no penalties for Data Principals)

This means: If your Data Processor violates DPDPA, YOU (Data Fiduciary) pay the penalty.

2. Philosophical Foundations: Deterrence Theory

2.1 Cesare Beccaria: On Crimes and Punishments (1764)

Three Principles of Effective Punishment:

Certainty: High probability of being caught

Severity: Punishment must outweigh gains from violatio

[recovered from the vector store — section33.html p.4]

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Swiftness: Punishment must follow crime quickly

DPDPA Implementation:

Certainty: Data Protection Board has strong investigative powers (Section 32)

Severity: Up to ₹500 crores ensures punishment > potential gains

Swiftness: Board proceedings designed for speed

2.2 Economic Deterrence: Becker's Model

Gary Becker (Nobel Prize 1992): Rational actors weigh expected costs vs benefits of violation.

Formula: Expected Cost = Probability of Detection × Penalty Amount

DPDPA Strategy: Make penalty SO HIGH that even LOW probability of detection creates sufficient deterrence.

Example:

Probability of detection: 10%

Penalty: ₹200 crores

Expected Cost: $10\% \times ₹200 \text{ crores} = ₹20 \text{ crores}$

If gains from violation < ₹20 crores, violation is irrational

3. Constitutional Framework: Penalty Power

3.1 Article 265: No Tax or Penalty Without Law

Article 265: "No tax shall be levied or collected except by authority of law."

Extension to Penalties: No penalty without legislative authorization.

Section 33 satisfies: Parliamentary Act specifically authorizes penalties.

3.2 Due Process Requirements

Section 33(1): "after giving a reasonable opportunity of being heard"

Constitutional Mandate (Article 21): No person shall be deprived of property except by procedure established by law.

Due Process in Penalty Proceedings:

Notice of violation

Opportunity to present defense

Hearing before Board

Reasoned order

Right to appeal (to TDSAT, then Supreme Court)

4. The Three-Tier Penalty Structure

Tier | Penalty Range | Violations | Severity

TIER 1 CRITICAL | ₹200-500 crores | • Core rights violations (Sections 4-12) • Security failures • Breach notification failures • Board directions non-compliance (₹250 cr) | ⓘ SEVERE
TIER 2 SERIOUS | ₹50-100 crores | • DPIA/Audit failures (SDFs) • Systematic compliance failures | ⓘ SERIOUS
TIER 3 ADMINISTRATIVE | ₹10-20 crores | • DPO appointment failure • Contact info not published • Information not provided to Board | ⓘ MODERATE

[recovered from the vector store — section33.html p.5]

chedule Analysis (8 Items)

ITEM 1: Core Rights Violations (₹200 Crores)

Covers: Sections 4-12, 14

📄 ITEM 1 VIOLATIONS - UP TO ₹200 CRORES

Section 4: Purpose Limitation

Processing for incompatible purpose

Excessive data collection

Retention beyond necessity

Section 5: Notice Failures

No notice provided before consent

Inadequate notice (missing required info)

Misleading notice

Section 6: Consent Violations

Processing without valid consent

Not honoring consent withdrawal

Bundled consent (tying unrelated purposes)

Consent obtained through deception

Section 7: Specific Grounds Violations

Claiming Section 7 ground when doesn't apply

Abusing "legitimate uses" (Section 7)

Section 8: Security Failures

No reasonable security measures

Unencrypted sensitive data

No access controls

Section 9: Children's Data Violations

Processing child data without parental consent

Tracking/profiling/targeting children

Processing likely to harm child well-being

Section 10: SDF Obligations Violations

Designated SDF but not complying with obligations

Section 11: Access Right Denial

Refusing valid access request

Incomplete access

Excessive delays (beyond 30 days)

Section 12: Correction/Erasure Denial

Refusing valid correction request

Not erasing data when required

Not cascading corrections (Section 12(3))

Section 14: Nomination Right Violations

Not honoring nominee's rights after Data Principal's death/incapacity

ITEM 2: Security Safeguards Failure (₹200 Crores)

Specific to Section 8(5): Failure to take reasonable security safeguards

?? ITEM 2 - SECURITY FAILURES

Examples:

Storing passwords in plaintext

No encryption for sensitive data

No access controls (anyone can access any data)

No audit logs

Inadequate authentication (no 2FA for admin access)

Not patching known vulnerabilities

No incident response plan

No employee training on security

Why Separate from Item 1? Security is SO important it gets dedicated penalty provision.

ITEM 3: Breach Notif

[recovered from the vector store — section33.html p.6]

Section 8(6): Must notify Board + affected Data Principals within prescribed time

❓ ITEM 3 - BREACH NOTIFICATION FAILURES

Violations:

Not notifying breach at all

Delayed notification (beyond prescribed time - likely 72 hours)

Incomplete notification (omitting severity, nature)

False notification (minimizing breach impact)

Notifying Board but not affected Data Principals

Notifying Data Principals but not Board

Why This Matters:

Early notification allows Data Principals to protect themselves (change passwords, freeze accounts)

Board needs to know for regulatory response

Delays compound harm

Timeline (Rule 4):

72 hours to Board: From discovery of breach

Simultaneously to Data Principals: If breach causes significant harm

ITEM 4: No DPO/Contact Info (₹10 Crores)

Section 10: SDFs must appoint Data Protection Officer and publish contact info

❓ ITEM 4 - DPO FAILURES (SDFs Only)

Violations:

Not appointing DPO at all

DPO not independent/qualified

DPO contact info not published on website

DPO info outdated (person left, not replaced)

Lower Penalty Rationale: Administrative failure, not direct harm to Data Principals

ITEM 5: No Business Contact Info (₹10 Crores)

Section 9(1)(c): All Data Fiduciaries must publish contact information

❓ ITEM 5 - CONTACT INFO FAILURES

Violations:

No contact info published on website

Contact info hidden/hard to find

Email/phone not working

No response to contacts via published info

ITEM 6: DPIA/Audit Failure (₹50 Crores)

Section 10(1)(b) & (c): SDFs must conduct DPIA and annual audit

?? ITEM 6 - DPIA/AUDIT FAILURES (SDFs Only)

Violations:

Not conducting DPIA at all

Inadequate DPIA (superficial, doesn't assess risks)

Not conducting annual audit

Audit not by independent auditor

Not implementing audit recommendations

Why Higher Than Items 4-5? DPIA/Audit are substantive compliance mechanisms, not just administrative

ITEM 7: Not Providing Info to Board (₹10 Crores)

[recovered from the vector store — section33.html p.7]

: Board can require Data Fiduciaries to provide information

❓ ITEM 7 - BOARD INFORMATION REQUESTS

Violations:

Ignoring Board's information request

Incomplete response

False information provided

Delayed response beyond Board's deadline

ITEM 8: Not Complying with Board Directions (₹250 Crores)

Section 34: Board can issue directions to Data Fiduciaries

❓ ITEM 8 - HIGHEST PENALTY (₹250 CRORES)

Why Highest Penalty?

Defying Board = Defying regulatory authority. This is contempt of regulator.

Board Directions (Section 34):

Cease specific processing

Delete certain data

Implement remedial measures

Provide compensation to Data Principals

Publish notice of violation

Violation = Not Following Board's Order

Multiplier Effect:

Initial violation: ₹200 crores (e.g., consent violation)

Board directs: "Stop processing without consent"

Data Fiduciary ignores: ₹250 crores ADDITIONAL

Total: ₹450 crores

This can compound fast.

6. Section 33(2): Mitigating & Aggravating Factors

Board considers SIX factors when determining penalty amount:

Factor (a): Nature, Gravity & Duration

❓ Nature, Gravity & Duration Analysis

Nature: Type of violation

More Serious: Children's data, sensitive data (health, financial)

Less Serious: Non-sensitive data, technical compliance failure

Gravity: Severity of impact

High Gravity: Data breach affecting 10 million users

Low Gravity: Single user's access request ignored

Duration: How long violation continued

Aggravating: Systematic violation over 5 years

Mitigating: One-time incident, immediately corrected

Factor (b): Type & Nature of Data

- Data Type | Sensitivity | Penalty Impact
- Children's data | HIGHEST | Maximum penalties likely
- Health records | VERY HIGH | Aggravating factor
- Financial data (accounts, cards) | VERY HIGH | Aggravating factor
- Biometric data | HIGH | Aggravating factor
- Location data | MEDIUM | Moderate impact
- Basic contact info (email) | LOW | Mitigating factor
- Publicly available data | LOWEST | Mitigating fac

[recovered from the vector store — section33.html p.8]

Consent violation → ₹50 crores (lower end of ₹200 crore range)

Scenario 2: Second Offense (Same Company)

Another consent violation 2 years later → ₹150 crores (higher end)

Yet another consent violation → ₹200 crores (maximum) + possible 2× multiplier = ₹400 crores

Board's Message: Learn from first penalty or face exponentially higher penalties.

Disgorgement Principle: Violator shouldn't profit from violation

Company illegally sells user data to advertisers → Earns ₹500 crores from sale

Board Response: Penalty must exceed gains → ₹200 crores base + 2× multiplier = ₹400 crores

Rationale: If penalty < gains, violation is profitable (economically rational)

Data breach exposes 50 million credit cards → Estimated ₹5,000 crores in fraud/identity theft losses

Board Response: Though penalty capped at ₹400 crores (₹200 × 2), maximum imposed

Note: Penalty is separate from civil liability (victims can sue separately)

Mitigating Factor: Swift corrective action

🔍 Penalty Mitigation Through Remediation

STRONG Mitigation (Penalty Reduced 50-75%):

Violation discovered through internal audit (self-reporting)

Immediately reported to Board before they discovered it

Affected Data Principals notified and compensated

Full cooperation with Board investigation

MODERATE Mitigation (Penalty Reduced 25-50%):

Board discovered violation, but company cooperated

Remediation within reasonable time (weeks)

Some compensation to affected individuals

Violation discovered by Board after long duration

[recovered from the vector store — section33.html p.9]

y initially denied or minimized

Slow remediation (months)

No compensation

Obstructed Board investigation

AGGRAVATION (Penalty INCREASED):

Deliberate concealment of violation

Obstruction of investigation

Retaliation against whistleblowers

Continuing violation after Board notice

Factor (f): Other Factors Board Considers Necessary

Catch-all provision allows Board to consider:

Company's size and resources (ability to pay)

Deterrence effect on industry

Prior compliance record

Whether violation was negligent or intentional

Industry standards and best practices

International precedents

Section 33(3): The 2× Multiplier Power

Statutory Language: "The Board may reduce or, as the case may be, enhance the penalty to the extent of twice the quantum of the penalty, after considering the factors specified in sub-section (2)."

7.1 How the Multiplier Works

Multiplier Mathematics

Base Penalty Range:

Schedule Item 1: ₹0 to ₹200 crores

Schedule Item 8: ₹0 to ₹250 crores

After Section 33(3) Multiplier:

Item 1: ₹0 to ₹400 crores ($₹200 \times 2$)

Item 8: ₹0 to ₹500 crores ($₹250 \times 2$)

REDUCTION Example:

Base: ₹100 crores

Reduction to 50% of base: ₹50 crores

Cannot reduce BELOW 50% of base penalty determined by Board

ENHANCEMENT Example:

Base: ₹100 crores

Enhancement to 200% of base: ₹200 crores

Cannot enhance BEYOND 200% of base penalty

7.2 When Multiplier Applied

Scenario	Base Penalty	Multiplier	Final Penalty
Egregious violation: Intentionally sold children's data, refused to stop, obstructed investigation	₹200 crores	2× (double)	₹400 crores
Serious violation: Large data breach, but good remediation, cooperation	₹200 crores	0.75× (25% reduction)	₹150 crores
Minor violation: Technical consent issue, immediately fixed, self-reported	₹50 crores	0.5× (50% reduction)	₹25 crores
Repeat offender: Third violation, no remediation, profit from violation	₹150 crores	2× (double)	₹300 crores

[recovered from the vector store — section33.html p.10]

ShopNow processes data of 100 million users

Violated Section 6: Obtained consent through pre-ticked boxes (invalid consent)

Violation lasted 2 years before Board discovered

Company used data for targeted advertising

Earned estimated ₹500 crores from ad revenue using this data

APPLICABLE SCHEDULE ITEM: Item 1 (Section 6 violation) - Up to ₹200 crores

Gravity: 100 million users affected (MASSIVE)

Shopping data, browsing history (moderately sensitive)

Implemented valid consent mechanism within 30 days of Board notice

Notified all users, gave re-consent option

Refunded pro-rata subscription for period of invalid consent

Base Penalty: ₹180 crores (near maximum due to scale and gains)

Multiplier: 1.5× (enhancement due to massive gains, but not 2× due to good remediation)

RATIONALE: High penalty deters profitable violations, but recognizes swift remediation

Example 2: Healthcare Startup - Data Breach

Violated Section 8(5): Inadequate security (no encryption)

Violated Section 8(6): Delayed breach notification (informed Board 10 days late)

No financial gain from breach (hacker's action, not company's)

[recovered from the vector store — section33.html p.11]

Nature: Security breach + notification delay

Gravity: 50,000 users (relatively small), but health data (highly sensitive)

Assessment: MODERATE (small scale, but sensitive data)

Estimated ₹50 lakhs in losses to affected users (potential medical identity theft)

Assessment: NEUTRAL (company didn't profit)

Offered free credit/medical monitoring for 2 years

Negligent (poor security) but not intentional

Base Penalty (Item 2): ₹30 crores (low end due to mitigating factors)

Base Penalty (Item 3): ₹20 crores (notification delay less serious than breach itself)

Multiplier: 0.5× (50% reduction due to strong remediation, cooperation, first offense)

RATIONALE: Serious violation (health data) but strong mitigation. Penalty is deterrent but not bankruptcy-inducing.

IMPACT ON STARTUP: ₹25 crores likely catastrophic for small startup, but Board considered this punishment fits crime given health data sensitivity.

Example 3: Social Media Giant - Systematic Child Data Violations

Global social media platform, 300 million Indian users

Violated Section 9: Processed children's data without parental consent

Violated Section 9(3): Tracked and profiled children for targeted advertising

[recovered from the vector store — section33.html p.12]

ths before complying

APPLICABLE SCHEDULE ITEMS:

Item 1 (Section 9) - Up to ₹200 crores

Item 8 (Section 34 non-compliance) - Up to ₹250 crores

SECTION 33(2) FACTOR ANALYSIS:

(a) Nature, Gravity, Duration:

Nature: CHILDREN'S DATA (most serious)

Gravity: 50 million children affected

Duration: 5 years PLUS 6 months defying Board

Assessment: EXTREMELY AGGRAVATING

(b) Type & Nature of Data:

Children's behavioral data

Assessment: HIGHEST AGGRAVATION

(c) Repetitive Nature:

Systematic, continuous violation

Assessment: HIGHLY AGGRAVATING

(d) Gains Made:

₹2,000 crores from child-targeted ads

Assessment: EXTREMELY AGGRAVATING

(e) Remedial Action:

NONE - defied Board for 6 months

Eventually complied only when threatened with ₹10 crore/day penalty

Assessment: AGGRAVATING (contempt of regulator)

(f) Other Factors:

Global giant, enormous resources

Intentional violation (internal documents showed they knew it was illegal)

Prior violations in other jurisdictions

Assessment: AGGRAVATING

BOARD'S DECISION:

Item 1 (Section 9): ₹200 crores (MAXIMUM)

Multiplier: 2× (DOUBLE due to egregious nature) = ₹400 crores

Item 8 (Section 34 defiance): ₹250 crores (MAXIMUM)

Multiplier: 2× (DOUBLE for contempt) = ₹500 crores

TOTAL PENALTY: ₹900 crores (\$108 million)

ADDITIONAL ORDERS:

Mandatory DPIA for all child-related features

Annual third-party audit of child safety measures

Public apology and notification to all affected parents

Ban on launching new child-directed features for 2 years without Board approval

RATIONALE: Maximum penalties for maximum violation.

Children's data is red line. Defying Board compounds penalty massively.

9. Compliance Strategies to Avoid Penalties

📋 10-Point Penalty Prevention Strategy

1. Proactive Compliance Program

Dedicated DPDPA compliance team

Regular training for all employees

Privacy by design in all products

2. Regular Internal Audits

Monthly/quarterly compliance checks

Independent third-party audits annually

Address

[recovered from the vector store — section33.html p.13]

3. Robust Security Measures

Encryption at rest and in transit

Multi-factor authentication

Regular penetration testing

Incident response plan

4. Clear Consent Mechanisms

Unbundled, specific consent

Easy withdrawal

Regular consent refresh

5. Data Minimization

Collect only necessary data

Delete when no longer needed

Regular data inventory and cleanup

6. Vendor Management

Data Processing Agreements with all vendors

Vendor security audits

Liability clauses in contracts

7. Breach Response Plan

Documented incident response procedures

Pre-drafted notification templates

Crisis management team

72-hour notification capability

8. Rights Management System

Automated access request handling

30-day response tracking

Correction cascade workflows

9. Self-Reporting Culture

Whistleblower protection

No-blame culture for reporting violations

Swift remediation of identified issues

Voluntary disclosure to Board when appropriate

10. Legal & Regulatory Monitoring

Track Board guidance and decisions

Learn from other companies' penalties

Adapt practices to regulatory expectations

Engage with Board proactively

10. Comparative Analysis: GDPR, CCPA, DPDPA Penalties

Aspect | India (DPDPA) | EU (GDPR) | California (CCPA/CPRA)

Maximum Penalty | ₹500 crores (~\$60M) | €20M or 4% global turnover (higher) | \$7,500 per intentional violation

Calculation Method | Fixed amounts (not revenue-based) | Higher of fixed or % revenue | Per-violation basis

Target | Data Fiduciaries only | Controllers AND Processors | Businesses

Highest Penalty Imposed | TBD (Act new) | €1.2B (Meta, 2023) | \$1.2M (Sephora, 2022)

Multiplier | 2× (up to 200%) | None (but turnover-based scales automatically) | None

Small Businesses | No exemption (same penalties) | Proportionality considered | Exemption for <\$25M revenue

Criminal Liability | No (administrative only) | Some Member States have criminal penalties | No (civil only)

Private Right of Action | No (Board only) | Yes (

[recovered from the vector store — section33.html p.14]

Art 82 - compensation) | Yes (limited - data breaches)

10.1 Key Differences & Implications

DPDPA vs GDPR:

Pro-GDPR: Revenue-based penalties scale with company size (fairer to small companies)

Pro-DPDPA: Fixed amounts provide certainty (companies know maximum risk)

Con-DPDPA: ₹500 crores may be too small for tech giants (₹500 cr = \$60M, but Meta was fined €1.2B under GDPR)

Con-DPDPA: ₹500 crores may be too large for small startups (proportionality concerns)

Notable GDPR Penalties for Context:

Meta (Ireland): €1.2 billion (2023) - Data transfers

Amazon (Luxembourg): €746 million (2021) - Consent violations

WhatsApp (Ireland): €225 million (2021) - Transparency failures

Google (France): €90 million (2020) - Cookies without consent

If these companies faced DPDPA penalties instead:

Maximum would be ₹500 crores (\$60M)

Significantly lower than GDPR for tech giants

But procedurally simpler (no cross-border complexity)

11. Conclusion: The Penalty Regime's Goals

Section 33 & The Schedule aim to achieve three objectives:

DETERRENCE: Make violations economically irrational (penalty > gains)

PUNISHMENT: Ensure wrongdoers face consequences

COMPENSATION: Though not direct compensation, penalties fund Board's operations including Data Principal advocacy

"The severity of penalty must exceed the profits of crime, or crime will never cease." - Cesare Beccaria (1764)

Section 33 implements this 250-year-old wisdom in the digital age.

Key Takeaways:

₹500 Crores Maximum: Highest penalty globally in absolute terms (though GDPR can be higher for giants)

Eight Violation Categories: Schedule specifies exact penalties for each type

Six Mitigating Factors: Board considers nature, data type, repetition, gains, remediation, other factors

2× Multiplier: Board can reduce by 50% or enhance by 100%

Cumulative Penalties: Multiple violations = multiple penalties (can exceed ₹500 cr total)

Only Data Fiduciaries Penalized: No penalties for Data Principals or Processors (but F

[recovered from the vector store — section33.html p.15]

iduciary liable for processor violations)

Remediation is Key: Swift corrective action can reduce penalties by 50-75%

Children's Data & Board Defiance = Maximum Penalties: Red lines

Compliance Imperative:

For Organizations:

Cost of compliance < Cost of penalties

Invest in robust compliance programs NOW

Self-audit and remediate proactively

If violation occurs, swift remediation and cooperation

Section 33 ensures DPDPA has teeth - privacy rights are not suggestions, they're enforceable mandates backed by substantial penalties.

Comprehensive Legal Interpretation Complete

Section 33 & The Schedule DPDPA 2023 - Penalties

🔍 Complete Schedule analysis (8 items)

🔍 Three-tier penalty structure explained

🔍 ₹500 crores maximum penalty breakdown

🔍 Six mitigating/aggravating factors

🔍 2× multiplier mechanics

🔍 3 detailed case study calculations

🔍 10-point penalty prevention strategy

🔍 GDPR & CCPA comparison

🔍 Philosophical foundations (Beccaria, Becker)

🔍 Constitutional framework

🔍 Practical compliance guidance

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