

PM Modi stresses on data security, self-reliance in tech sectors

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NEW DELHI: Amid growing concern over cyber attacks and data theft in a globally connected world, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday emphasised on data security through localisation, urging stakeholders to minimise dependence on foreign countries and keep the servers within India to secure data and communication networks.

"We all need to give more impetus to our efforts to bring new technology in the communication sector. Servers should be in India only. Dependence on foreign countries should be minimised... We have to increase our efforts in this direction," said Modi while touching upon concerns over data security while using communication networks. He was addressing a webinar on tech-enabled development, the seventh in the series to encourage stakeholders to fully implement the themes of the Budget.

"We have to increase our efforts in this direction with great awareness. With regard to Fintech, India has done wonders in the past. People could never have imagined these sectors in our country. But today our villages are also getting involved in financial activities through mobile phones. This means that the inclusion of more and more modern technology in fintech is the need of the hour for us. It also ensures security," he said.

He exhorted the private sector to take maximum advantage of change of rules for the use of geo-spatial data and the infinite opportunities that it throws up.

He noted how the Budget lays down a clear roadmap for 5G. Referring to the dictum 'Science is Universal and Technology is Local', the PM said, "We are familiar with the principles of science, but we have to emphasize on how to make maximum use of technology for the ease of living." He mentioned investment in house constructions, railway, airways, waterways and optical fibres.

"The world has seen our reliability from our self-sustainability to vaccine production during Covid-19. We have to replicate this success in every sector," said Modi.