Cyber security breaches in India

Why in news?

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Recently fast food chain giant McDonald asked its customers to update its app to prevent any unnecessary cyber security breaches.

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What is the issue?

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- It further said that the app doesn't store sensitive financial information of its users, and that it is safe to use.
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- The statement from the food chain giant came after a blog post by cyber security start-up Fallible, which had noted that the McDonald's app is leaking personal data for more than 2.2 million of its users.
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- The leakage includes name, email address, phone number, home address, accurate home co-ordinates and social profile links.
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What are the reasons to worry?

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- In India, there is a relative silence when it comes to public acceptance of cyber breaches by individual companies.
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- **India ranked fourth** among countries most targeted for Web application attacks, in a report by content delivery network services provider.
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- Juxtapose this with the fact that India has been adding millions of Internet users every year, along with the fast entry of Indian into the world of digital money.
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- Fallible in an earlier post had called the security of Indian payments infrastructure 'a joke'.
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- It said that vulnerabilities in major payment gateways and wallets include multiple ways of data leak, monetary loss, private keys leak and more.
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What is the way forward?

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- Making breaches public should be mandatory and is the wake-up call company's need.
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- It would then become a customer-facing issue, and the management will be all ears.
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- The more proactive ones will also realise that good cyber security can be good marketing.
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Source: The Hindu

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