



# ISSUES & CHALLENGES OF CYBER SECURITY IN INDIA: A STUDY

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## ABSTRACT

In the world of information management, cyber security plays a critical role. In today's world, protecting privacy and data has been one of the most difficult tasks. Cyber protection is a valuable concept, but it is difficult to define precisely. It is also been mixed up with other terms like anonymity, knowledge sharing, intelligence collection, and monitoring in the past. The importance of a data security framework to safeguard the emerging ICT infrastructure in today's information environment cannot be overstated. ICT infrastructure is the common thread that connects all vital national infrastructures. The presence of a both E-governance and E-commerce projects being undertaken around the world include a reliable cyber security infrastructure model. In this article, an attempt is made to present a snapshot of this development, as well as possible patterns and imperatives that arise from this analysis in the sense of India.

**Keywords:** ICT technology vulnerability, Cyber security structure, electronic security practices, Next Generation Networks, e-governance, and e-commerce.

## INTRODUCTION

Cyber security has been recognized as the act of securing ICT networks and their content. Cyber protection can be an effective language, but it continues to defy precision definitions, a broad and perhaps somehow fluid idea. Other terms like anonymity, knowledge disclosure, intelligence collection, and monitoring are often wrongly conflated. Cyber security can nevertheless serve as an effective mechanism for privacy protection and illegal monitoring prevention and cyber security knowledge exchange and intelligence collections can be valuable tools.

In order to achieve successful data security, risk management for information networks is seen as important. Three considerations are included in the risks associated with any assault: challenges (attackers), vulnerabilities (weakness) and impacts (what the attack does). While most cyber attacks have little impact on the national security system, the economy, livelihood and security of individual people, a successful assault on a number of

critical infrastructure (CIs) components – most of which are private-sector. Reducing those risks usually means eliminating causes of threats, resolving vulnerabilities and reducing impacts.

Other terms such as anonymity, knowledge sharing, data collection and monitoring are often mistakenly combined with cyber security in public debate. Privacy is related to an individual's ability to control other people's access to information. Good cyber security can thus help secure privacy in an automated world, but information exchanged for the purposes of cyber protection can sometimes include personal data that some people at least consider private.

Cyber security can be the mechanism by which unwanted monitoring and intelligence collection of an information system can be protected. However, those practices can also be helpful in helping to promote cyber defense by targeting possible causes of cyber threats. Furthermore, tracking in the context of information flow monitoring within a system may be an essential component of cyber defense.

## **CONCEPT OF CYBER SECURITY**

Experts and policymakers have been debating this issue for many years. expressed growing concern about the security of ICT systems from cyber attacks intentional attempts by unauthorized individuals to gain access to ICT programmes, typically with the intent of stealing, disrupting, or destroying them damage, or any other illegal activity. Many analysts believe that the number and scale of cyber attacks are expected to rise in the coming years.

The act of safeguarding ICT systems and data is known as cyber security. The term "cyber security" was coined to describe the protection of digital information. A diverse and inclusive after being a very hazy term, cyber defense may be a valuable tool.

However, it is difficult to define precisely. It normally applies to one or more of the following things:

- 1) A collection of operations and other steps designed to secure servers, computer networks, associated hardware, and software from invasion, destruction, or other threats, devices and applications, as well as the material they contain and interact, such as software and records, as well as other cyberspace elements.
- 2) The condition or standard of being safe from these threats.
- 3) The vast area of effort aimed at putting such efforts into action and enhancing their efficiency.

In policy debates, cyber security is often conflated with other terms such as anonymity, knowledge sharing, data collection, and surveillance. Privacy refers to a person's right to monitor who has access to knowledge about them. As a result, while good cyber protection may help protect privacy in an electronic world, information

exchanged to aid cyber security efforts could occasionally include personal information that at least some analysts may consider private. Cyber protection will guard against unauthorized monitoring and intelligence collection from an information system.

When directed at possible sources of cyber threats, however, such actions may be beneficial in achieving cyber security. Surveillance in the sense of information flow control within a system may also be an essential component of cyber defense.

## **MEANING OF CYBER SECURITY**

According to the IT Act,2000: Sec.2(nb) cyber security means protecting information, equipment, devices, computer, computer resource, communication device and information stored therein from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification or destruction.

"Anti-authorized access or assault measures to secure a device or computer system (as on the Internet)." "Cyber security refers to preventive approaches used to avoid lost, hacked or aggressive content. It calls for an awareness of possible vulnerabilities to information like viruses and other malicious programming. Identity control, crisis management and emergency management are the cyber security techniques."

## **CYBER SECURITY RISK MANAGEMENT**

Any attack's risks are determined by three factors: challenges (who is attacking), flaws (how they are attacking), and consequences (what the attack does).

Benefit assessment for information infrastructure is regarded as critical to successful data defense.

## **WHAT THREATS ARE THERE?**

Criminals intent on monetary gain from crimes such as theft or extortion; spies intent on stealing classified or proprietary information used by government or private entities; nation-state warriors who develop capabilities and hackers who carry out cyber attacks in support of a country's strategic objectives.

## **WHAT ARE THE IMPACTS OF THIS PROBLEM?**

An ICT system's security, transparency, and availability, as well as the information it manages, may be jeopardized if an attack is successful. Cyber fraud or cyber spying can lead to the theft of financial, confidential, or personal information that the perpetrator can profit from, often without the victim's knowledge. Denial-of-service attacks can make legitimate users' access to a device slow or impossible. Botnet malware allows an attacker to take control of a server and use it to launch cyber attacks against other computers. Industrial control systems can be attacked and the machinery they control, such as engines, motors, and centrifuges, can be destroyed.

Many cyber attacks have minor consequences, but a successful assault on critical infrastructure (CI)—the majority of which is owned by the private sector—could have major implications for public security, the economy, and individual citizens' livelihoods and protection. As a result, an unusual successful attack with a big impact can be more dangerous than a typical successful attack with a small impact. Reduce the risks of cyber attacks by

- (1) removing the threat source (e.g., by shutting down botnets or reducing incentives for cyber criminals);
- (2) addressing vulnerabilities by hardening ICT assets (e.g., by patching software and training employees); and
- (3) lessening the impacts by mitigating damage and restoring functions (e.g., by having back-up resources available for continuous operation).

## **ROLE OF GOVERNMENT**

In terms of cyber security, the government's position includes both defending government infrastructure and aiding in the protection of non-government networks. All government agencies now have data security responsibility for their own networks, and many have sector-specific responsibilities for CI under existing legislation. The Department of Electronics and Information Technology (Deity), Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, Government of India, has established a legislative structure called the National Cyber Security Policy. Its aim is to keep public and private networks safe from cyber-attacks.

According to the regulation, personal information (of web users), financial and banking information, and sovereign data, are also intends to safeguarded. This was especially important in light of recent NSA leaks indicating that US government agencies are spying on Indian consumers, who have no legal or technological protections against it. Cyberspace, according to India's Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, is a diverse ecosystem comprised of human activities, software services, and the worldwide dissemination of information and communication technology.

According to numerous reports and researches, India's National Cyber Security Policy of 2013 has a number of flaws and weaknesses. Despite the policy's announcement, India is still not cyber-ready. In addition, the proposal was not adopted until November of 2014. (till 21 November 2014). India's data security problems are only going to get worse, so decisive action is expected. India's proposed programmes, such as the National Cyber Coordination Centre and the National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC), could help the country's cyber security and critical infrastructure protection. Now it will see how Cyber Security Strategy 2020 protects the cyber space.

## THE CYBER SPACE OF INDIA

The exponential growth of the Internet over the last decade seems to have aided a spike in the number of cases of online attacks. National Informatics Centers were founded in 1975 in India to provide the government with various IT-related solutions. At the time, three main networks had been established.

- (a) **INDONET**: This network links India's computing system, which consists of IBM mainframes.
- (b) **NIC NET**: It is a public-sector NIC network that links the federal government with state and local governments.
- (c) **ERNET**: ERNET is an Education Research Network that serves the university and research communities and terrorists that use cyber attacks as a means of non-state or state-sponsored warfare.

## NATIONAL CYBER SECURITY POLICY 2013

The National Cyber Security Policy, 2013, is a major initiative on the part of the Indian government to protect our country's cyber security climate, but it has certain flaws that need to be addressed in order to make it more effective for future complexities.

So for this purpose GoI launched new **NATIONAL CYBER SECURITY STRATEGY 2020**. The National Cyber Security Strategy 2020 aims to protect enterprise records, a sensitive information resource that has the potential to affect national security and the economy. It has the following objectives:

- 1) Secure ( National Cyber Space)
- 2) Strengthen (Structure, People, Processes, Capabilities)
- 3) Synergize (Resources including Cooperation and Collaboration)

The first element secures large scale digitization of public services, supply chain security, critical information infrastructure protection and digital payment security.

Second element strengthens structures, character, institutions & governance, budget allocation, research, innovation & technology development, capability & skill building, audit & assurance and data security.

The third element synergize internet infrastructure, standard development, cyber insurance, brand India, cyber diplomacy and cyber crime investigation.

## CYBER SECURITY INITIATIVES

ISTF (Information Systems and Technology Facilities) recommended following initiatives:

- 1) The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) was formed to respond to cyber security incidents and prevent them from happening again.

- 2) PKI was created to aid in the enforcement of the Information Technology Act and to encourage the use of digital signatures.
- 3) The government has been funding R&D initiatives in the country across top academic and public sector institutions.

Other initiatives:

- 1) National Informatics Centre (NIC)
- 2) Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT)
- 3) National Information Security Assurance Program (NISAP)

## CHALLENGES OF LONG TERM

Preventing cyber-based hazards and espionage, reducing the impacts of successful threats, strengthening multi- and intra-sector cooperation, clarifying federal agency functions and duties, and combating cyber crime are all among the executive branch activities and pending legislation.

These requirements remain, however, in the light of more difficult long-term problems including design, incentives, consensus, and the environment (DICE):

**Design:** Experts often state that good protection must be a part of every ICT design. For economic reasons, developers have historically prioritised features over stability. Furthermore, certain potential security requirements are impossible to foresee, creating a difficult challenge for designers.

**Incentives:** The system of economic cyber security incentives has been defined as skewed or even perverse. For offenders, cybercrime is seen as a low-cost, high-profit, and relatively secure choice. Cyber security, on the other hand, can be costly, is inherently flawed, and the economic returns on acquisitions are often uncertain.

**Consensus:** Cyber security means different things for various stakeholders and has no common sense, application and risk agreement. There are also significant cultural obstacles to consensus, not just among sectors, but even within sectors and even within organizations.

**Environment:** In size and properties, cyberspace is considered the most rapidly developing technological space in human history. New and emerging properties and applications—particularly social media, mobile computing, Big Data, cloud computing, internet—complicate the changing threat landscape, but could potentially improve cyber security by, for example, economies in scope of cloud computing and big data analytics.

## THE POSITION OF THE UNION GOVERNMENT

India does not currently have a clear law that is primarily enforced for the security of data and the privacy of the citizen of India. The Indian Data Security and Privacy Regulatory mechanism is composed of the Information Technology Act, 2000 (the IT Act) and its related Information Technology Rules, 2011 (the IT Rules).

Furthermore, under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution which guarantees the right to privacy as a fundamental right of every citizen, Personal Data is also covered. In a number of cases, the Supreme Court has ruled that information about a person and the right of the individual to access the information is also protected by the privacy privilege.

## CONCLUSION

Although the government's objective is to ambitiously expand cyber connectivity. E-commerce is booming, and a number of e-governance practices now take place on the Internet. If we become more dependent on the internet for our everyday lives, we are even more vulnerable to cyberspace disruptions. The speed at which this industry has expanded has led policymakers and private businesses to strive to understand both the complexity and importance of cyber security and how accountability is shared.

Cyberspace occupies the fifth position in the common space and it is essential that all nations work on cyberspace together and cooperate. There is an increasing need for cyberspace and its use. In order for many terrorists to target key intelligence facilities, cyberspace is becoming a major field. The current legislation is unable to curb cyber attacks and thus calls for a change in the existing legislation to allow these practices to be checked.

International coordination amongst nations is needed to tackle cybercrime effectiveness so that the evolution of cybercrime on the Internet is not restricted to countries without borders, such that universal partnership amongst countries is needed in order to operate together to and the increasing risks and danger to a manageable level.

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