



# NEWS DIGEST

*MEITY Chair on Internet Policy*

ICRIER's Internet Policy News Digest is your fortnightly update on Indian and global developments in cyber-security, digital economy, and Internet governance. The archives for this news digest are available at [www.internetpolicy.in](http://www.internetpolicy.in). Please email your valuable feedback and comments to [internet.news@icrier.res.in](mailto:internet.news@icrier.res.in).

## GLOBAL

### **[California lawmakers set to pass California's net neutrality law, USA's toughest](#)**

The legislation is expected to be debated at the Supreme Court due to the opposition from Federal Communications Commission, which voted against it, last July. The legislation is set to have a wide impact given California's economy (8th largest in the world), which also houses major tech companies.

### **[Pew survey finds more than 1 in 4 American users have deleted Facebook](#)**

The survey further revealed that 54% tweaked their privacy settings and 42% stopped using the app for several weeks or longer. The survey was conducted from May 29 to June 11, with 4,594 respondents. Facebook, however, reported stable active daily user numbers.

### **[ITU releases its National Cyber security guide on the sidelines of ITU Telecom World, 2018](#)**

This guide aims at helping policymakers develop secure, resilient, ICT strategies to enable a connected society, while considering countries' cultural and socio-economic context.

### **[Tata Communications launches advanced cyber security response center in Dubai](#)**

The launch marks its fourth dedicated cyber security response center after Chennai, Pune, and Singapore, and will provide services to its customers, i.e. governments and enterprises in the Middle East Region to counter emerging and expected cyber security threats.

### **[Private companies are stepping up cyber security offerings for election security in the U.S.](#)**

Microsoft joined a list of companies that includes McAfee, Cloudflare, and most recently, Valimail to offer anti-fraud email services to election campaigns in the U.S. However, U.S.

government efforts towards the same have slowed, with 'The Secure Elections Act' not receiving support from the Republican party.

### **[Researchers discover new channel of attack to steal Smartphone passwords](#)**

Researchers at Lancaster University are the first to demonstrate how a Smartphone's microphone and speaker system can be used to steal a device's unlock pattern. The paper states that the 'SonarSnoop' attack decreases the number of unlock patterns to try by 70% for the hacker and can be deployed without the user's knowledge.

### **[Members of the European Parliament vote in favor to update EU copyright legislation](#)**

The legislation's controversial articles: Article 11, which allows news publishers to claim remuneration for online use of their work by online aggregators, and Article 13, which requires implementation of automatic content recognition systems to block copyright infringing works, continue to be points of serious contestation.

### **[EU's executive body mulling over one-hour takedown laws for terrorist content](#)**

In March this year, the EU handed an informal 'one-hour' rule to social media to take down terrorist content, which it plans to convert into a law. It is being suggested that the proposed law would apply to any hosting services provider offering services in Europe, expanding the applicability of the proposed legislation.

## **INDIA**

### **[Google ready to comply with RBI rules for payments data localization](#)**

Asking for an extension of two more months, until December, Google conveyed its agreement to comply with RBI's data localization norm for payment companies to India's IT minister, during his visit to the US. RBI has asked companies to provide fortnightly updates on implementation amid security concerns. The regulation can be read [here](#).

### **[Ministry of Defence signs deal with Ava Risk Group for cyber security solutions](#)**

The deal requires manufacturing of Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) network security technology under license by the private company's Indian partner, SFO Technologies Pvt. Ltd. The security solution will enhance protection for the Indian Army's data networks, one of the world's largest closed user group networks.

### **['India risk survey 2018' reveals cyber security as one of the biggest risks facing Indian businesses](#)**

The report, launched by Deloitte, surveyed 100 top executives from companies with turnovers ranging from Rs 500 crore to Rs 7,500 crores, and found that 31% of those surveyed treat cyber security as a risk area, while 44% and 25% of responses feel regulatory risks and technological disruptions as major risk areas, respectively.

### **[India's central bank aims to step up its cyber security arrangements in financial year 2019](#)**

In its annual report, the RBI stated its aim to promote a culture of cyber security, and introduce an audit management application portal to supervise cyber security functions. The RBI also plans to organize focused, theme-based IT examinations to monitor cyber security capabilities of Indian banks.

### **[Vodafone-Idea merge to become India's largest telecom company](#)**

The subscriber base of the merged entity stands at 408 million, overtaking Bharti Airtel. The merged entity, headed by Kumar Mangalam Birla, deploys 1,850 MHz of spectrum, 2,00,000

unique GSM sites, and 2,35,000 km of fibre to offer voice and broadband connectivity, covering 92% of the population.

### **Reliance Jio deploying satellites to offer 4G LTE based services in rural and remote areas**

Reliance Jio awarded a contract worth \$10 million to Hughes Communications (HCIL) to use its Jupiter satellite system to support its 4G sites, alongside using two of ISRO's satellites. Satellite based broadband, while not as effective as fibre-based, will side step 'Right of Way' concerns, and other costs of expansion associated with fibre-based broadband.

### **TRAI reduces scope of consultation for regulation on Over the Top (OTT) communication platforms**

TRAI may impose lesser regulations on OTT, now that telecom companies are seeing rising data consumption over their networks due to communication platforms such as WhatsApp and Skype. In the April-June period, the Average Revenue per User (ARPU) for Idea Cellular for instance, was Rs. 72 from voice, and Rs. 82 for data.

### **Despite stiff competition from digital media, revenues for print grew in 2017-18**

The report titled 'Media ecosystems: the walls fall', launched by KPMG finds that print media revenues in India rose 3.4% to reach Rs. 31,800 crores, faring better than global rates. The growth in Indian media and entertainment is expected to reach 2,66,000 crore by 2023, at a CAGR of 13.1%, driven by an expanding digital user base.

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Rajat Kathuria  
Director & CE



Core 6A, 4th Floor, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003

PH: +91 11 43112400, E-mail: [ahuja@icrier.res.in](mailto:ahuja@icrier.res.in)

Website: [www.icrier.org](http://www.icrier.org)

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