spam campaign was reported that continued to leverage hijacked domains to distribute 'Grand Crab', a potent strain of ransomware.

EU Commission presents recommendations for creating a system that allows citizens to access health records across EU

Currently, EU citizens only have limited or no access to their health records at national level or across borders. The recommendations extend the proposal to enable access of laboratory tests, medical discharge reports and images and imaging reports across EU.

German courts finds abuse of dominance by Facebook, orders Facebook to curb its data collection practices

The ruling prevents Facebook from forcing its users to agree to unrestricted collection and assigning of non-Facebook data to their Facebook accounts. Germany's cartel office objected to how Facebook tracks non-members online and pools data on people from third-party apps, including its own Whatsapp and Instagram.

Australian Parliament's network hacked. Investigation underway.

Australian parliament revealed that its computer network was hacked by an unspecified 'security incident'. Officials state that there was no evidence yet of breach and access to data. All parliamentary passwords were reset as a precaution.

INDIA

What's in the 2019 Interim budget for Digital India

The interim budget 2019 doubled allocation for the Digital India program to Rs. 3073 crores. Furthermore, the Government proposes to launch National Center for AI and an AI portal, create one lakh digital villages in the next 5 years, and computerize and simplify tax processes and procedures.

Twitter India summoned by Parliamentary panel over Citizen's social media rights; Twitter CEO skips the hearing

A Parliamentary committee summoned Twitter India after a voluntary group wrote to the committee, alleging Twitter's bias against 'right-wing' twitter handles. The veracity of the alleged bias however may be challenged by data, and such Parliamentary summons is usually issued when performing quasi-judicial functions such as investigations.

India's big diamond traders are facing customer data leaks, but no fixes en route

An Indian cybersecurity company discovered data leaks across large diamond trading enterprises that used Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software configured by a company called Fauna technologies. Companies exposed to the data leak continue to disbelieve that their software was compromised.

Ahead of the elections, Facebook adds 5 new third-party fact checkers

Facebook stated that India Today group, Vishvas.news, Factly, Newsmobile, and Fact Crescendo were added as their third-party fact checkers. Facebook's fact-checking initiative now has 7 fact-checkers across English and 5 Indian languages: Hindi, Bengali, Telugu, Malayalam and Marathi.

Infosys sets up digital innovation and design center in the U.S., hired 7,600 people in the last two years

Such technology hubs are also being set up in Indianapolis, Raleigh, Hartford, and Phoenix. North America is the largest market for Infosys, accounting for 60.4% of its topline, followed by Europe (24.2%), rest of the world (12.8%) and India (2.6%)

Center's equalization levy', a tax on the digital economy and garners Rs. 550 crores in 2017-18

The levy was announced in 2016 on payments made by residents to a non-resident for online advertisement, provision of digital and advertising space, or any other facility or service for online advertisement. The data on revenues from the levy also points towards potential gains

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. Please email your valuable feedback and comments to internet.news@icrier.res.in.

GLOBAL

EU's data watchdog approves of an accord to allow market regulators access to information for better regulation

The European Data Protection Board approved of an 'administrative arrangement' to take into account commitments made by regulators, and ensure safeguards when personal data is transferred. U.S regulators have warned previously of GDPR adversely affecting exchange of cross-border information.

Google's parent Alphabet beats quarterly earnings expectations but investors remain weary

Although Alphabet reported a 22% increase in profit over revenue in the fourth quarter compared to last year, investors are worried about a 29% drop in 'cost per click' and a rise in expenses from previous year's $24.6 to the present $31 billion. Such caution led to 3.3% decrease in Alphabet's share value.

It's Safer Internet Day on the 5th of February. Here's how to make the Internet safer for Children

A survey of 15,000 children and 12,000 of their caregivers conducted by the Global Kids Online project found: positive impacts of digital skills on minimizing online harm, non-positive impacts on restrictive strategies such as banning children from using Internet, real world inequalities affect online learning outcomes for children.

Godaddy.com struggling with authentication weaknesses, scammers continue to hold sizeable Godaddy domains

Earlier in January this year, GoDaddy stated it placed a fix on an adversary dubbed 'Spammy Bear', which hijacked dormant domains for spam. However, beginning 1st of February, a new

from taxation based on Significant Economic Processes (SEP), and adds to bolster global consensus on taxing the digital economy.

51 railway stations in AP are now enabled with free WiFi under Digital India mission
Rail Tel Corporation of India has collaborated with Google to execute this WiFi project. Internet speeds are unrestricted for the first half hour per day per user and drops to 2mbps. The total WiFi enabled railway stations in the country now stand at 400.

We'd love for you to spread the word! Do share contact details of those who may be interested in receiving ICRIER's newsletter, publications and notices regarding seminars, workshops, conferences, etc.

Rajat Kathuria
Director & CE