



# 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

### **European Parliament passes Directive on Copyright that introduces sweeping changes to its previous copyrights rules**

Among other components is the controversial Article 13 that requires online platforms to filter and remove copyrighted material from websites. This overturns the status quo in which platforms were only obligated to remove copyrighted material when directed by the right holders.

### **U.S's allies softening their stance on Huawei**

Despite significant campaigning efforts and diplomatic threats to get its allies to stop using Huawei's telecommunication equipment, the E.U, India, Germany, Britain and the UAE signaled no intention to block Huawei in their respective countries. The European Commission is set to drop its threats against Huawei but will urge other countries to share more data to tackle cybersecurity risks from 5G.

### **Western Democracies are mounting defences to protect its elections from cyber threats**

EU council adopted amendments, which will put in place a verification procedure that determines whether a breach in EU's GDPR is linked to EU's election activities. In the U.S., Facebook launches its 'Ad Library' that allows users to learn about Page creation dates, mergers with other pages, where it is managed from. Users can also avail downloadable Ad Library report.

### **The Worst Corporate Hacks of all time featuring over 200 corporate, government and non-governmental organizations**

The data gathered by Bloomberg News counted breaches of 1 million or more. Exposure from hacks ranged from emails and passwords to highly sensitive personal and financial information. Technology companies, retail and financial institutions were typically targeted with healthcare providers suffering from high-profile hacks

### **ICANN board reserves the right to adopt a final decision in case the ACTO and Amazon.com fail to agree over .Amazon TLD**

The decision was recently adopted at ICANN64 held in Kobe in March. Colombia, a representative of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) expressed its willingness to resume dialogue with Amazon.com to arrive at an agreement. The case of ACTO

and Amazon.com is significant for ICANN, and has proved to be a diplomatic and institutional challenge

### **Egypt approves draft law that protects personal data**

The law is aimed to protect privacy as stated in Egypt's constitution, implement financial inclusion strategies and improve Egypt's standing on human rights. The proposed regulation regulates two types of personal data: regular and sensitive data with the latter including data on health, political views, financial transactions, and data on children.

## **INDIA**

### **NSE arm buys cybersecurity firm Aujas**

An arm of the country's largest stock bourse NSE has acquired cybersecurity company Aujas. The transaction comes amid concerns on cyber defences raised by multiple studies and surveys. The acquisition, according to the NSE, will help provide globally benchmarked cybersecurity offering to enterprises such as cybersecurity assessments.

### **Taming Fake News is Top Concern of WhatsApp India | WhatsApp, NASSCOM join hands to help curb misinformation**

With the Lok Sabha election dates being announced, WhatsApp, which has taken several measures to limit the spread of misinformation and fake news on its platform in India, will further secure its platform. The partnership aims to reach approximately 100,000 Indians with training to spot false information and provide tips and tricks to stay safe on WhatsApp.

### **Snapdeal, ShopClues, And Few Other Partners To Launch A New Trade Association Called "TECI"**

E-Commerce players, including Snapdeal, ShopClues, UrbanClap, and Shop101, have joined hands to launch a new trade association, The E-Commerce Council of India (TECI). The move to establish a new trade body comes at a time when the government has tightened norms for e-commerce firms having foreign investment.

### **Reliance Jio offers 'Celebration Pack' with 2GB data per day**

Telecom operator Reliance Jio is offering a new 'Celebration Pack' for a limited period. The telco had announced this offer last September as a celebration of its two-year anniversary. This offer is available only for Jio Prime users and is valid only till March 17. It offers users 2GB of free data daily. Jio users can claim this offer and enjoy up 6GB of additional data.

### **Digital Divide: How Internet exacerbating wage inequalities**

For a country like India that has big gaps in education and health outcomes, the Internet offers great potential to increase salaries and wages across the board. While an ICRIER-Broadband India Forum study showed that a 10% increase in mobile Internet traffic leads to a 3.3% increase in GDP, the spoils aren't evenly spread.

### **TRAI to hold consultations on 4G spectrum allocation to BSNL, MTNL**

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) will hold a consultation on spectrum allocation with State-owned operators BSNL and MTNL soon, a senior official said. Both the operators had recently requested the government to allot them spectrum for 4G services in lieu of equity.

### **I-Tax Department to Use Big Data Analytics from April to Check Tax Evasion**

The Rs 1,000 crore programme, named "Project Insight", will track the social networking profiles of people and keep a tab on their expenditure patterns through photographs and videos uploaded on social media. If the purchases and travel expenses are found to be disproportionate to the declared income of a person, action would follow.

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