



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

Coming in May 2019, a new EU regulation on non-personal data

Member states will be prohibited from enforcing data localisation in relation to the processing or storing of non-personal data. The aim of this is to promote the free movement of non-personal data across the EU without any interference from member states.

Why Did Washington State's Privacy Legislation Collapse?

The bill would have been the second of its kind in the nation after the California Consumer Privacy Act, but the gap between the version supported by the tech industry, and the more stringent version favored by privacy groups, proved too big to close.

Britain lets Huawei into part of its 5G networks

Unlike Australia and New Zealand, and in the face of warnings from America, Britain will allow Huawei, a Chinese telecoms giant, to supply parts of its 5G network. This is a key moment in a raging debate over how Western democracies should handle Chinese technology when economic, political and military competition between the West and China is growing.

Facebook: Social media giant hit by three allegations in a day

The Data Protection Commission of Ireland announced the opening of a 'statutory inquiry' on Facebook for exposing the passwords of millions of users in internally-stored plain text. It is investigating whether Facebook is found violating GDPR laws designed to secure user personal data, even as the Facebook-Cambridge Analytica data scandal is widening with the Canadian privacy commissioner deciding to take their investigation to court.

How social media propels protests in Sudan

In the battle against authoritarianism in Sudan, social media is emerging as an important tool in providing people with an opportunity and avenue to organise and rebel against their governments. The hashtag [#بس_تسقط](#) has become a repository and source of information on the protests happening in Sudan.

Under-18s face 'like' and 'streaks' limits on social media

Facebook and Instagram face limits on letting under-18s "like" posts on their platforms while Snapchat could be prevented from allowing the age group to build up "streaks", under new

rules proposed by the UK's data watchdog, Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). While ICO believes the tools encourage users to share more personal data and spend more time on apps than desired, it has been criticised by Adam Smith International for infantilising users.

INDIA

Internet users in India to rise by 40 per cent, smartphones to double by 2023: McKinsey

With data costs falling by 95% since 2013, India will see internet users rise by about 40% and number of smartphones to double by 2023, McKinsey said in a report. It also expects core digital sectors to jump two-fold to USD 355-435 billion by 2025.

60% Indian firms worried about Internet security: Report

Nearly 60 per cent organisations in India are concerned that the Internet is getting increasingly unstable from a cybersecurity standpoint and they are unsure how to react, says a new report from Accenture. 77% respondents believe that the advancement of the digital economy will be severely hindered unless there is dramatic improvement in Internet security.

UIDAI denies report of Aadhaar data breach in IT Grid case

The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has refuted reports claiming breach of its servers in the latest case of Aadhaar data leak. A private firm, IT Grid (India), was recently accused of obtaining personal details of 7.82 crore Aadhaar holders in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

Arbitrary ban on social media platforms will impede FDI: IAMAI

The Madras High Court on April 3, 2019, had directed the Centre to ban TikTok, saying it was evident from media reports that pornography and inappropriate content were made available through such mobile applications. IAMAI said that any "arbitrary" ban on social media platforms and intermediaries could impede FDI and affect Digital India's expansion.

Regulation is Inevitable For OTT Services in India

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India suggests that it will finalise its views on the regulation of over-the-top (OTT) communication services in India, by the end of May. This comes after the TRAI had confirmed in January that it would be finalising the guidelines that would regulate OTT based communication services within the next few months. TRAI would organise an open house in Delhi on May 20 on regulatory frameworks for OTT.

Cryptocurrency Businesses Excluded from RBI Fintech Regulatory Sandbox, Blockchain allowed

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has released its much anticipated fintech regulatory sandbox but with one notable exception – cryptocurrency startups. Among the excluded fintech firms are cryptocurrency exchanges and brokerages, as well as initial coin offerings (ICOs).

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