



# 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

### **Grand Theft Data II: what's changing the data breach landscape?**

McAfee's report surveys 700 IT security professionals from commercial and enterprise organizations across India, US, Australia, UK, Canada, Singapore, France and Germany on experiences with data breaches. Database leaks, USB drives and cloud applications were major data exfiltration points, with internal IT operations being implicated for 52% of breaches. More than half the respondents also felt that Senior and C-level executives should lose their jobs over severe cases of data breaches.

### **Facebook is sharing its data to evaluate how social media impacts elections and democracy**

Facebook announced it would grant more than 60 researchers from 11 countries and 30 academic institutions access to user data for research. The initiative, organized in tandem with Social Science Research Council (SSRC) and Social Science One, will see researchers venture into effects of peer-shared fake news and polarized news consumption, differences between how mainstream and misleading news are engaged with online, and disinformation campaigns across Germany, Chile and Italy.

### **GDPR's one-year anniversary: no change in data governance practices, few data breaches resulted in monetary penalties**

An annual audit by Varonis Systems Inc. found that average large company leaves 17% of sensitive files open for employees to access. A survey of 1365 business-manager in seven countries found that on average, managers estimate 55% of their data to be dark or unknown.

Data obtained by digi.me under the Freedom of Information Act finds a monetary penalty rate of 0.25% of self-reported data breaches, demonstrating how severely the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) is inundated with trivial concerns that don't warrant investigation.

### **Amazon.com Inc. claims to be a victim of fraud that involves Hackers siphoning Merchant funds**

Amazon stated that it was a victim of a serious attack by hackers who broke into 100 seller accounts and siphoned cash from loans or sales into their bank accounts. The hack took place between May and October 2018.

### **Uber's first step into Public Transport: Providing real time information for Transport for London (TfL)**

Uber has added information on public transport to its app in London. It will show Londoners the fastest and cheapest way to get between destinations using London's public transport, in addition to private hire cars. Its collaborations with public transport should also be observed by noting its S-1 form that lists public transportation as a direct competitor.

### **Regulatory options for reigning in the social media giant**

Options include setting up a federal technology standards authority, changing Facebook's privacy user interface among others. Joining the ranks of all the calls made for controlling and regulating Facebook is Facebook's co-founder Chris Hughes, who argues for Mark Zuckerberg's "staggering" influence and concentration of power to be reigned in.

## **INDIA**

### **SEBI directs National Stock Exchange to review all third-party agreements from 2009 that have data sharing agreements**

Earlier, SEBI barred the NSE from raising money on securities for six months after the NSE did not exercise due diligence in placing a network that allowed high frequency traders unfair access to some network servers at the exchange.

### **Department of Telecommunication asks Karnataka Government's telecom infrastructure rollout to be aligned to Central Government's plans**

The DoT circular stated that Karnataka's Right of Way policy be aligned with the Central (Indian Telegraph) Right of Way policy. Consequently, Bangalore's municipal corporation (BBMP) had ordered to cut down over ground telecom cables laid, citing non-compliance. Tower and Infrastructure Providers Association (TAIPA) alleged that cable was cut in several areas without prior intimation to the telecom industry.

### **India and its Digital Economy at the WTO: reject EU's e-commerce policy, protect domestic industry, and use Indian data for Indian development**

India's trade envoy stated that ongoing efforts by the US and other countries undermined multilateral exploratory work on e-commerce. Rejecting EU's e-commerce proposal, India's trade envoy also stated that developing countries are not ready for binding rules in e-commerce.

### **Internet Shutdowns cause severe economic damage but are unlikely to achieve intended goals**

Research on the impact of shutdowns in maintaining public safety suggests their ineffectiveness. Examining thousands of peaceful demonstrations and violent riots that took place in India in 2016, authors find that violent protest generally increased on each consecutive day of disconnection relative to typical agitations that do not feature such blackouts. ICRIER's Study estimated the economic costs of internet shutdowns between 2012 to 2017 to be \$3.04 billion.

### **India's dead may outnumber the living on Facebook within 50 years**

Research from the Oxford Internet Institute predicts that based on 2018 user levels, 1.4 billion users will die before 2100, which case the dead could outnumber the living by 2070. Authors raise questions on who will have the right to data of deceased users, how it ought to be managed in the best interest of families of the deceased and its use by future historians to study the past.

### **Uber partners with Yulu to provide eBikes and Bicycles to citizens of Bangalore**

Uber is aiming to provide an IoT based operation to enable consumers to rent bicycles seamlessly on a pay-per use basis. Yulu eBikes can be unlocked with QR codes on a user's smartphone, while Uber can locate and unlock a bike as long as the Uber app has permission to access one's location and camera.

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



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)

---

**Disclaimer:**

*Opinions and recommendations in the report are exclusively of the author(s) and not of any other individual or institution including ICRIER. This report has been prepared in good faith on the basis of information available at the date of publication. All interactions and transactions with industry sponsors and their representatives have been transparent and conducted in an open, honest and independent manner as enshrined in ICRIER Memorandum of Association. ICRIER does not accept any corporate funding that comes with a mandated research area which is not in line with ICRIER's research agenda. The corporate funding of an ICRIER activity does not, in any way, imply ICRIER's endorsement of the views of the sponsoring organization or its products or policies. ICRIER does not conduct research that is focused on any specific product or service provided by the corporate sponsor.*

To unsubscribe please [click here](#)