



CYFY 15-17 OCT 2014

THE INDIA CONFERENCE ON CYBER SECURITY AND CYBER GOVERNANCE

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Conference Details

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THEMES

Cyber Lawfare: The Contest Over Territory And Jurisdiction
The Digital Nation: Is Social Media Disruptive Or Democratic?
Counter Terrorism In Cyber Space
Rethinking The Global Cyber Market
ICANN Or ICAN'T?
Deconstructing Multistakeholderism
Protecting CII's
Privacy Is Dead?
Norms Of Cyberspace
Preparing For Cyber Conflict: Is It Inevitable?
Emerging Powers And Internet Governance: Looking Towards 2020

SPEAKERS

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Commissioner, Global Commission on
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Executive Director, Centre for Internet and
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SAJID JAVID

Member of Parliament and Secretary of State
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Asia Pacific, ICANN, Singapore

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Following the success of CYFY 2013:

AN INCREASED MANDATE

The inaugural Cyfy 2013: The India Conference on Cyber Security and Cyber Governance, held in New Delhi in collaboration with India's leading industry association, FICCI, and sponsored by Raytheon and the Bombay Stock Exchange was a big success. Cyfy saw an impressive list of speakers from across the world – India's Minister for Communication and Information Technology, both its National Security Advisor and Deputy National Security Advisor and its Minister for Information and Broadcasting spoke at the conference. Estonia sent its Minister for Science and Education (former Defence Minister), who had been at the forefront when Estonia faced a crippling cyber attack on its country's infrastructure. Also present were the Commissioner for International Cyber Policy for the European Union, a senior NATO advisor, senior Indian bureaucrats and leading cyber academic experts from Australia, Russia, Israel and the US.

The two-day conference was attended by 250 sector watchers on the first day and 150 on the second. It received extensive press coverage, both in India and abroad. Its success has been given an official nod by the Government of India - ORF has been invited to join the Government of India's Working Group on Internet Governance, under the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology in 2014 for a period of 3 years.

In 2014, Cyfy has become more focused, and is leveraging itself as a platform – in India – to have a global conversation about issues of internet governance and security. From a global perspective, cyber security trends have been challenging to all governments. The functional capabilities of hardware and software are increasing exponentially vis-à-vis government administered security (assessment, response, strategy) capabilities which either haven't essentially evolved bottom up and tend to lag, or fail to predict or register surges. Furthermore, cyber-attacks have become a state and non-state tool for achieving strategic objectives or tactical advantages – which fit into the larger geopolitical context in the form of asymmetric actions short of military action. These are now emerging as precedent-setting aspects, given the sheer absence of universally agreed, uniformly interpreted and complied (by) rules and regulations. Countries must discuss what are the rules - in a situation just short of war, as cyber attacks have been so far. There are also challenges in the very definition of 'cyber security' – with the liberal democratic paradigm emphasising the protection of information networks against sabotage and unwarranted intrusion; and the authoritarian

paradigm focused on information security, focusing on content, and perhaps, internet dissidence. Attention also needs to be paid to the international cyber security market, where ethical hacking procedures used for penetration testing are much the same that are used for sabotage – so one never can tell how inducements may cause some to turn rogue and abuse the available skills and technologies.

Cyber governance, too, has its share of complex problems. Liberal democracies want democratic values, freedom of information and speech, apprehension towards terrorism and extremist hate speech, and favouring open borders in cyber space as inherent qualities of the internet. However, there is considerable debate on whether a UN-based body, ITU or even an amended and expanded avatar of ICANN is the best internet governance body. Another governance question is that how do countries settle on expansion of Domain Name Systems (DNS) roots servers, which are currently located in the USA, Japan, the UK and Sweden. Many countries feel there may be a case for establishing additional DNSRSs in the Southern Hemisphere (or the South). This may be desirable to bring certain changes in the governance system to prevent balkanization of the internet.

From an Indian perspective, both security and governance are huge issues for the present and subsequent governments to think about. As more and more mobile phones, tablets and other gadgets flood the internet market, it will be harder to ensure their security standards as companies will be fighting to offer lower price points to capture the Indian market. At the same time, the fact is that the government has to ramp up penetration at a rate and expanse unprecedented in history, entail mobilising – cheap tablets, content producers, pirated content, service providers in a promiscuous regulatory environment.

Yet this same network will be used to deliver critical services, including banking, healthcare and so on. And that personal data belonging to every citizen connected to the grid will have to be secured. In fact, India's National Security Advisor announced the plan for delivering social security governance and services through the digital media at the last Cyfy 2013.

Already with over 324 million users of the internet hailing from India, questions of security and governance are as crucial to the country as they are to the world. It is only apt that this round of international talks will take place in New Delhi, where we hope to build on the good work from last year.

For details and registration:

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