Cyber-Crime: Trends in India

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Abstract—*Internet came into existence with the advent of Digitization, and now internet is a part of life everywhere. Internet helps people in their day to day life whether it is in studies, business, household chores, shopping etc. But every coin has two sides where Internet has given several options to improve our work life or routine life at the same time it has also introduced new kind of crimes, which is known as cyber-crime.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Thomas and Loader describes cyber-crime as "Computer mediated activities which are either illegal or considered illicit by certain parties and which can be conducted through global electronic networks" (Cybercrime, Routeledge, 2000). Debarati Halder and K. Jaishankar define cybercrimes as: "Offences that are committed against individuals or groups of individuals with a criminal motive to intentionally harm the reputation of the victim or cause physical or mental harm, or loss, to the victim directly or indirectly, using modern telecommunication networks such as Internet (networks including but not limited to Chat rooms, emails, notice boards and groups) and mobile phones (Bluetooth/SMS/MMS)". When people use Computer and internet for frauds, forgery or for any illegal purpose it comes under the category of Cyber-crime. Anyone who is well versed with computer and understands how internet works can be a part of it. So it becomes difficult also to catch these people as they are very smart and intelligent too.

Cyber-Crime intervene in the privacy of people and their personal affairs, it can cause damage to the privacy, confidentiality. The cyber criminals can use this information to blackmail or to harm others. Debarati Halder and K. Jaishankar further explained it from gender perspective that "Crimes targeted against women with a motive to intentionally harm the victim psychologically and physically, using modern telecommunication networks such as internet and mobile phones".

2. TYPES OF CYBER-CRIME

Broadly cyber-crime can be categorized into three categories

   a) Financial
   b) Personal
   c) Others

Financial: - In these types of cases people try to forge and take financial benefits out of it. It can include theft of information or using banking details for duplication of cards or any other thing.

Personal: - In this category cyber-crimes related to persons which affects them personally are considered for ex distributing pornography, trafficking, Black mailing etc.

Others: - Others include hacking, virus attacks, phishing, spoofing etc.

3. CYBER-CRIME IN INDIA

As the usage of internet is increasing, the rate of cyber-Crime is also increasing. The Cyber Laws have been made to deal with these cases. It Act 2000 contains all the rules and regulations and it has details which acts are punishable and under which section it should be considered.

NCRB (National crime records bureau) records data as per IT Act, that how much cases are registered every year and under which category these cases should be recorded.

Patterns of Cases Reported and Persons Arrested under IT Act during 2012 – 2015

SL. No.	Crime heads	Cases Registered			% Variation in 2014 over 2013	Persons Arrested			% Variation in 2014 over 2013
		2012	2013	2014		2012	2013	2014	
1	IT - Tampering computer source documents	161	137	89	-35.0	104	59	64	8.5
2	IT - Computer related offences	1875	2516	5548	120.5	749	1011	3131	209.7
3	IT - Cyber Terrorism@	-	-	5	-	-	-	0	-
4	IT - Publication/transmission of obscene/sexually explicit content	589	1203	758	-37.0	497	737	491	-33.4
5	IT - Intentionally not complying with the order of controller	6	13	3	-76.9	4	3	4	33.3
6	IT - Failure to provide or monitor or intercept or decrypt information	3	6	2	-66.7	3	7	0	-100.0
7	IT - Failure to block access any information hosted etc.@	-	-	1	-	-	-	0	-
8	IT - Not providing technical assistance to Govt. to enable online access@	-	-	0	-	-	-	0	-
9	IT - Un-authorized access/attempt to access to protected computer system	3	27	0	-100.0	1	17	0	-100.0
10	IT - Misrepresentation/suppression of fact for obtaining license etc.	6	12	5	-58.3	5	14	13	-7.1
11	IT - Breach of confidentiality/privacy	46	93	16	-82.8	22	30	13	-56.7
12	IT - Disclosure of information in breach of lawful contract@	-	-	2	-	-	-	5	-
13	IT - Publishing/making available false elect. Signature Certificate	1	4	0	-100.0	0	8	0	-100.0
14	IT - Create/publish/make available Elec. Signature Certificate for unlawful purpose	10	71	3	-95.8	3	51	5	-90.2
15	IT - Others	176	274	769	180.7	134	161	520	223.0
	Total Offences under IT Act	**2876**	**4356**	**7201**	**65.3**	**1522**	**2098**	**4246**	**102.4**

Note: '-' implies sezo value in previous year.
'@ implies data collected in 2014 for the first time

Source: National crime records bureau. (NCRB) website

SL	Crime heads under IT Act	Cases Registered			% Var.	Persons Arrested			% Var.
		2013	2014	2015		2013	2014	2015	
1	Tampering Computer Source Documents (Sec. 65 of IT Act)	137	89	88	-1.1	59	64	62	-3.1
2	Computer Related Offences(Sec. 66 to 66E of IT Act)	2,516	5,548	6,567	18.4	1,011	3,131	4,217	34.7
3	Cyber Terrorism@(Sec. 66F of IT Act)	-	5	13	160.0	-	0	3	-
4	Publication/Transmission of Obscene/Sexually Explicit Content(Sec. 67 to 67C of IT Act)	1203	758	816	7.7	737	491	555	13
5	Intentionally not Complying with the Order of Controller(Sec. 68 of IT Act)	13	3	2	-33.3	3	4	3	-25
6	Failure to Provide or Monitor or Intercept or Decrypt Information(Sec. 69 of IT Act)	6	2	0	-100	7	0	0	-
7	Failure to Block Access any Information Hosted etc.@ (Sec. 69A of IT Act)	-	1	0	-100	-	0	0	-
8	Not Providing Technical Assistance to Govt. to Enable Online Access@(Sec. 69B of IT Act)	-	0	3	-	-	0	0	-
9	Un-authorized Access/Attempt to Access to Protected Computer System(Sec. 70 of IT Act)	27	0	8	-	17	0	4	-
10	Misrepresentation/Suppression of Fact for Obtaining License etc. (Sec. 71 of IT Act)	12	5	4	-20	14	13	2	-84.6
11	Breach of Confidentiality/Privacy(Sec. 72 of IT Act)	93	16	20	25	30	13	6	-53.8
12	Disclosure of Information in Breach of Lawful Contract@(Sec. 72A of IT Act)	-	2	4	100	-	5	2	-60
13	Publishing/Making Available False Elect. Signature Certificate (Sec. 73 of IT Act)	4	0	3	-	8	0	0	-
14	Create/Publish/Make Available Electronic Signature Certificate for Unlawful Purpose(Sec. 74 of IT Act)	71	3	3	0	51	5	3	-40
15	Others	274	769	514	-33.2	161	520	245	-52.9
	Total Offences under IT Act	**4,356**	**7,201**	**8,045**	**11.7**	**2,098**	**4,246**	**5,102**	**20.2**

Note: '-' implies sezo value in previous year. % Var. – refers the Percentage Variation during 2015 over 2014
'@ implies data collected in 2014 for the first time

Source: National crime records bureau. (NCRB) website

As per NCRB records in 2012 total 2876 cases were registered in 2013 4356 cases were registered, in 2014 7201 cases were registered and in 2015 total 8045 cases were registered under IT Act 2000. It has been observed that computer related offenses have been increased and especially from 2013 to 2014 it has been increased 120.5%.In 2015 it has also increased but the ratio is very low as compared to previous years.

The reasons are:
1) People are more aware about the different crime which can happen online.
2) Government is also taking initiatives in making awareness amongst people.
3) The vigilance is also strong.
4) The technology is also supporting in catching the criminals.

4. CONCLUSION

Overall data shows that the Cyber-crime is increasing because internet is everywhere and it is a part of life in every aspect. People are using it for almost every task and the data of people related to them whether it is personal, professional, financial is available online. So it increases the chances for more cyber-crime cases. IT Act 2000 has supported in controlling these kinds of events but it is increasing everywhere but the ratio of increase is decreased.

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