

# INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF RESEARCH IN COMMERCE, IT & MANAGEMENT

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**A ROAD MAP TOWARDS SECURE CYBER WORLD**

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**ABSTRACT**

*Information and communication technologies (ICTs) today have impacts on virtually every aspect of society and every corner of the world in information. The more cases of cyber-crimes over the ICTs especially through the fastest growing medium like Internet, the more voices for regulating them in whatever forms. However, cyberspace is being governed by a system of law and regulation called Cyber Law. This paper discusses cyber crime, criminal activity which targets computers and information, or which uses computers as the means of committing an offense.*

**KEYWORDS**

security, cyber world.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

Cyber Crime may be defined as "unlawful acts wherein the computer is either a tool or target or both". The computer may be used as a tool in the following unlawful acts like- financial crimes, sale of illegal articles, pornography, online gambling, intellectual property crime, e-mail spoofing, forgery, cyber defamation, cyber stalking, unauthorized access to computer/ computer system/ computer networks, theft of information contained in the electronic form, e-mail bombing, data diddling, salami attacks, logic bombs, Trojan attacks, internet time thefts, web jacking, theft of computer system, physically damaging the computer system.

This paper discusses how it is a very serious and complicated matter that cannot be taken lightly and how without a true understanding, public and private corporations can easily be misled in the perspective of its gravity. It analyzes how rapid technological change creates a challenge to the courts and whether existing legal principles can be applied to resolve the issue.

This paper provides a brief history describing the development of new laws for the new crimes, specific cases in history concerning cyber crime and also a description of where cyber crime exists today and its impact on the individual and companies who are its victims. "Just like the world of street crime the world of cyber crime needs policing tactics and policing units

**2. TYPES OF CYBER CRIME****HACKING**

Modern-day graffiti has moved beyond scribbles on monuments and subway cars and now takes the form of defacing websites. This may be done for personal notoriety, the challenge, or a political message just as with traditional defacement of property. In addition to the obvious economic threats of hacking there is also real physical danger which can be caused by hacking into computer networks.

The act of gaining unauthorized access to a computer system or network and in some cases making unauthorized use of this access. Hacking is also the act by which other forms of cyber-crime (e.g., fraud, terrorism, etc.) are committed. Hacking in simple terms means illegal intrusion into a computer system without the permission of the computer owner/user.

**DENIAL OF SERVICE ATTACK**

This is an act by the criminal, who floods the band width of the victim's network or fills his e-mail box with spam mail depriving him of the services he is entitled to access or provide. Flooding a computer resource with more requests than it can handle. This causes the resource to crash thereby denying access of service to authorized users. For example attempts to "flood" a network, thereby preventing legitimate network traffic attempts to disrupt connections between two machines, thereby preventing access to a service attempts to prevent a particular individual from accessing a service attempts to disrupt service to a specific system or person[1].

**VIRUS DISSEMINATION**

A program that has capability to infect other programs and make copies of it and spread into other programs is called virus. (Eg. worms, Trojan Horse, Time bomb, Logic Bomb, Rabbit and Bacterium are the malicious soft wares)

**SOFTWARE PIRACY**

Theft of software through the illegal copying of genuine programs or the counterfeiting and distribution of products intended to pass for the original. Retail revenue losses world wide are ever increasing due to this crime. This can be done in various ways such as hard disk loading, counterfeiting, illegal downloads from the internet etc.

**PORNOGRAPHY**

Youths' exposure to pornography while online has become a hot topic with various family-oriented groups seeking to prevent the young's access to such sites.

**IRC CRIME**

Internet Relay Chat (IRC) servers have chat rooms in which people from anywhere the world can come together and chat with each other Criminals use it for meeting conspirators.

**CREDIT CARD FRAUD**

You simply have to type credit card number into www page off the vendor for online transaction If electronic transactions are not secured the credit card numbers can be stolen by the hackers who can misuse this card by impersonating the credit card owner.

**NET EXTORTION**

Copying the company's confidential data in order to extort said company for huge amount.

**PHISHING**

It is technique of pulling out confidential information from the bank/financial institutional account holders by deceptive means.

**SPOOFING**

Getting one computer on a network to pretend to have the identity of another computer, usually one with special access privileges, so as to obtain access to the other computers on the network.

**CYBER DEFAMATION**

The Criminal sends emails containing defamatory matters to all concerned of the victim or post the defamatory matters on a website. (Disgruntled employee may do this against boss, ex-boys friend against girl, divorced husband against wife etc)

**THREATENING**

The Criminal sends threatening email or comes in contact in chat rooms with victim. (Any one disgruntled may do this against boss, friend or official)

**SALAMI ATTACK**

In such crime criminal makes insignificant changes in such a manner that such changes would go unnoticed. Criminal makes such program that deducts small amount like 2.50 per month from the account of all the customer of the Bank and deposit the same in his account. In this case no account holder will approach the bank for such small amount.

**3. CYBER LAWS**

The growth of Electronic Commerce has propelled the need for vibrant and effective regulatory mechanisms which would further strengthen the legal infrastructure, so crucial to the success of Electronic Commerce. All these regulatory mechanisms and legal infrastructures come within the domain of Cyber law. Cyber law is important because it touches almost all aspects of transactions and activities on and involving the internet, World Wide Web and cyberspace. Every action and reaction in cyberspace has some legal and cyber legal perspectives. In short, cyber law is the law governing computers and the internet.

In India, cyber laws are contained in the Information Technology Act, 2000 ("IT Act") which came into force on October 17, 2000. The main purpose of the Act is to provide legal recognition to electronic commerce and to facilitate filing of electronic records with the Government.

Cyber law encompasses laws relating to –

- Cyber crimes
- Electronic and digital signatures
- Intellectual property
- Data protection and privacy

**4. PREVENTION OF CYBER CRIME**

Prevention is always better than cure. It is always better to take certain precaution while operating the net. Saileshkumar Zarkar, technical advisor and network security consultant to the Mumbai Police Cyber crime Cell, advocates the 5 mantra for online security: *Precaution, Prevention, Protection, Preservation and Perseverance*. A citizen should keep in mind the following things-

- to prevent cyber stalking avoid disclosing any information pertaining to oneself. This is as good as disclosing your identity to strangers in public place.
- always avoid sending any photograph online particularly to strangers and chat friends as there have been incidents of misuse of the photographs.
- always use latest and up date anti virus software to guard against virus attacks.
- always keep back up volumes so that one may not suffer data loss in case of virus contamination
- never send your credit card number to any site that is not secured, to guard against frauds.
- always keep a watch on the sites that your children are accessing to prevent any kind of harassment or depravation in children.
- it is better to use a security programme that gives control over the cookies and send information back to the site as leaving the cookies unguarded might prove fatal.
- web site owners should watch traffic and check any irregularity on the site. Putting host-based intrusion detection devices on servers may do this.
- use of firewalls may be beneficial.
- web servers running public sites must be physically separate protected from internal corporate network.

Some Other options which are helpful in prevention of Cyber Crime are:

**PHYSICAL SECURITY**

Physical security is most sensitive component, as prevention from cyber crime Computer network should be protected from the access of unauthorized persons.

**ACCESS CONTROL**

Access Control system is generally implemented using firewalls, which provide a centralized point from which to permit or allow access. Firewalls allow only authorized communications between the internal and external network.

**PASSWORD**

Proof of identity is an essential component to identify intruder. The use of passwords in the most common security for network system including servers, routers and firewalls. Mostly all the systems are programmed to ask for username and password for access to computer system. This provides the verification of user. Password should be changed with regular interval of time and it should be alpha numeric and should be difficult to judge.

**FINDING THE HOLES IN NETWORK**

System managers should track down the holes before the intruders do. Many networking product manufactures are not particularly aware with the information about security holes in their products. So organization should work hard to discover security holes, bugs and weaknesses and report their findings as they are confirmed.

**USING NETWORK SCANNING PROGRAMS**

There is a security administration's tool called UNIX, which is freely available on Internet. This utility scans and gathers information about any host on a network, regardless of which operating system or services the hosts were running. It checks the known vulnerabilities include bugs, security weakness, inadequate password protection and so on. There is another product available called COPS (Computer Oracle and Password System). It scans for poor passwords, dangerous file permissions, and dates of key files compared to dates of CERT security advisories.

**USING INTRUSION ALERT PROGRAMS**

As it is important to identify and close existing security holes, you also need to put some watchdogs into service. There are some intrusion programs, which identify suspicious activity and report so that necessary action is taken. They need to be operating constantly so that all unusual behaviour on network is caught immediately.

- Use anti-virus software and firewalls - keep them up to date
- Keep your operating system up to date with critical security updates and patches
- Don't open emails or attachments from unknown sources
- Use hard-to-guess passwords. Don't use words found in a dictionary. Remember that password cracking tools exist
- Don't share access to your computers with strangers
- If you have a Wi-Fi network, password protect it
- Disconnect from the Internet when not in use
- Reevaluate your security on a regular basis.

**USING ENCRYPTION**

Encryption is able to transform data into a form that makes it almost impossible to read it without the right key. This key is used to allow controlled access to the information to selected people. The information can be passed on to any one but only the people with the right key are able to see the information. Encryption allows sending confidential documents by E-mail or save confidential information on laptop computers without having to fear that if someone steals it the data will become public. With the right encryption/decryption software installed, it will hook up to mail program and encrypt/decrypt messages automatically without user interaction.

**5. CONCLUSION**

The paper concludes that the best protection against cyber criminals will be to enact global laws that are universal by nature, regardless of where the crime originates or ends. The paper concludes that rather than stop using the Internet; the time has come to enact legislation that will provide stronger sentences to



those who commit Internet crimes. It is not possible to eliminate cyber crime from the cyber space. It is quite possible to check them. The only possible step is to make people aware of their rights and duties (to report crime as a collective duty towards the society) and further making the application of the laws more stringent to check crime.

The criminals have changed their method and have started relying of the advanced technology, and in order to deal with them the society the legal and law enforcement authorities, the private corporations and organizations will also have to change.

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In this age of Commerce, Economics, Computer, I.T. & Management and cut throat competition, a group of intellectuals felt the need to have some platform, where young and budding managers and academicians could express their views and discuss the problems among their peers. This journal was conceived with this noble intention in view. This journal has been introduced to give an opportunity for expressing refined and innovative ideas in this field. It is our humble endeavour to provide a springboard to the upcoming specialists and give a chance to know about the latest in the sphere of research and knowledge. We have taken a small step and we hope that with the active co-operation of like-minded scholars, we shall be able to serve the society with our humble efforts.

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