# NIC/LIB/News-Clips/2016/126 LIBRARY & INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION

National Informatics Centre Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology A-Block CGO Complex Lodhi Road New Delhi

## Subject: NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS

Date: December 14, 2016

Id.	Date	Newspaper	News Title
C1	12-12-2016	Times of India	Four scholars conferred with honoris causa degrees
<b>M</b> 1	14-12-2016	International	After Legion hack, government gets cracking on cyber security;
		Business Times	<u>may</u>
M2	14-12-2016	Business Standards	Cyber attacks: IT ministry asks Twitter to reinforce security,
			<u>forms</u>
M3	14-12-2016	Economic Times	IT Minister orders measures to strengthen India's cyber security
M4	14-12-2016	Indian Express	Surge in e-transactions: CERT-In audits NPCI as pre-emptive
			step
M5	13-12-2016	Hindu	Centre mulls review of IT Act to strengthen cyber security
M6	14-12-2016	Times of India	Govt alert over cyber criminals gaining access to fin data
M7	14-12-2016	Economic Times	HC seeks govt response to telcos' understated income thatcost e
			xchequer over Rs 12,488 crore
N1	14-12-2016	Times of India	Mobile App, SMS to plug midday meal loopholes
N2	14-12-2016	Shillong Times	NIC apps to make life easier
N3	14-12-2016	New Indian Express	SMS-based app to monitor MDM plan
N4	14-12-2016	Hindu	Software to facilitate cashless transactions
N5	14-12-2016	Business Standard	Software being developed to promote online transaction in Hry
N6	13-12-2016	Business Standard	'Anarchists' Legion claim to have sansad emails
N7	13-12-2016	Firstpost	Hacker group Legion warns release of government emails
			hosted
N8	12-12-2016	Times of India	Gun owners asked to obtain UIDs at the earliest
N9	09-12-2016	Times of India	Soon, apply for driving licences online at Panvel RTO
N10	14-12-2016	दैनिक जागरण	कैशलेस लेन-देन समय की जरूरत
<b>S</b> 1	11-12-2016	Hans India	STPI Hyderabad holds awareness session
<b>S</b> 2	10-12-2016	Pioneer	1100 seats allocated to State under India BPO Promotion
			Scheme
01	14-12-2016	Times of India	IBM launches cyber security command centre for India
<b>O</b> 2	14-12-2016	Hindu BusinessLine	Trump's comment: Software industry bitten again by visa issue
			bug
03	14-12-2016	Economic Times	Microsoft selection for MHRD's Swayam violates policy: IT
			NPOs
Ι	14-12-2016	iSource News	52 News Headlines on IT (see <b>attached PDF</b> ) from <u>iSource</u>
		Headlines	

			News Updates . Registration required for Accessing Full News			
News Id. M – for MEITy. N - for NIC. C – for CDAC. S- for STPI. O - for other ICT News. I- iSource News Updates						

# C. News on "CDAC" (1 news item)

# C1. Four scholars conferred with honoris causa degrees

Times of India-12-Dec-2016

Addressing gathering, **C-DAC** director general Rajat Moona who was the chief guest said, "It is important to encourage innovations and the young talent pool of ...

RAIPUR: ITM University, Raipur conferred degrees on students during its second convocation held on the university campus, on Monday.

Addressing gathering, C-DAC director general Rajat Moona who was the chief guest said, "It is important to encourage innovations and the young talent pool of this country must strive to develop new applications for public service and nation's growth." He exhorted the graduating students to practise professionalism and increase self-confidence through continuous learning. He said, "Soon, we are going to become super economy in which role of youths and scientists will be of prime importance."

ITM vice-chancellor professor Dr Sanjay Kumar, VSM, in his welcome address, called upon the graduating students to join hands with national movement to promote cashless India. He administered the oath to all graduating students where they pledged to become responsible citizens with immaculate integrity and honesty.

He said that ITM University is not only providing theoretical education but also access to real life in every field of human endeavour.

On the occasion, four honoris causa were conferred on eminent scholars in the field of fine arts, management and allied sciences. A total of 94 degrees were conferred on management students, seven on MTech students and 159 on engineering students. A gold medal was also awarded to overall topper from management and engineering disciplines for showing their academic excellence.

Dr Sonali Malewar from School of Commerce, Management and Research coordinated the programme. Dr MS Mishra, Head School of Engineering and Research proposed the vote of thanks.

Dr Pradeep Sinha, vice-chancellor, IIIT-Raipur, Dr Deepak Shrivastava, registrar, HNLU Raipur and others were present.

News Source: <u>http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/raipur/Four-scholars-conferred-with-honoris-causa-degrees/articleshow/55952831.cms</u>

# M. News on "MEIT" (7 news items)

# M1 After Legion hack, government gets cracking on cyber security; may ...

International Business Times, India Edition-14 December 2014

Minister of *Electronics and Information Technology* Ravi Shankar Prasad said that the government is going to audit, review and handle security walls after the ...

After hacker group Legion cracked into Congress Vice President Rahul Gandhi and the Indian National Congress' Twitter account, the party attacked the BJP over lack of cyber security. The Ministry of electronics and information technology (MeitY) sought details of those who had access to the account.

Login details of the journalists have also been asked to verify the hacking.

The group had also said they would hack an email server, sansad.nic.in, used by government employees. The government is now working towards ensuring cyber security. They asked twitter to reinforce their security systems and report every breach to Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In).

Minister of Electronics and Information Technology Ravi Shankar Prasad said that the government is going to audit, review and handle security walls after the Congress questioned the government over pushing for digital economy when there was no cyber security.

Legion had said that cyber security of banks in India is weak and they have hacked them multiple times.

"The IT Act came out in 2000. It has by and large served us well...Now, as we move towards digital economy, we are reviewing if there is a need to relook its architecture to make it more of a deterrent for cyber criminals," Prasad said.

Due to increase in volume of traffic on IT platform, the government is going to take stricter action against violators. It will also set up a separate digital payments division under CERT-In that would be working 24x7 to strengthen it.

One cyber security officer (Central Information Security Officer) is present in every government department, he said.

"We have also told digital payment agencies or gateways to report any unusual movement by anyone on their platforms immediately to CERT-In. We have Botnet Cleaning and Malware Centre, a Crack Team at CERT-In to handle such issues," Prasad said.

Nearly 26 new CERT-In and five state CERTs has been approved recently to improve cyber security.

News Source: <u>http://www.ibtimes.co.in/after-legion-hack-government-gets-cracking-cyber-security-may-review-it-policy-708316</u>

# M2. Cyber attacks: IT ministry asks Twitter to reinforce security, forms ...

Business Standard-14 December 2016

... Rahul Gandhi and a few senior journalists, the ministry of **electronics and information technology** has asked the social media portal to 'strengthen security'.

After a series of hacks on Twitter accounts including embattled liquor tycoon Vijay Mallya, the official account of Congress Vice-President Rahul Gandhi and a few senior journalists, the ministry of electronics and information technology has asked the social media portal to 'strengthen security'.

"We have told <u>Twitter</u> so. If there are any incidents of cyberattacks, they should immediately inform CERT," said Union minister Ravi Shankar Prasad. The Computer Emergency Response Team-India (CERT-In) is the nodal agency under the ministry that handles and counters cyberattacks. <u>Twitter</u> was unavailable for a comment. Sources said police and CERT sleuths were looking into the matter and asked for the details of hacked accounts. According to sources, the office of Rahul Gandhi is yet to give details of his account.

With digitisation being the key word after demonetisation, the ministry says it is putting a cyber <u>security</u> apparatus at each level to prevent hacks. It plans to undertake a comprehensive review of the Information Technology Act.

"The Act came into being in 2000. It has, by and large, served us well. Now, as we move towards a digital economy, we are reviewing if there is a need to relook at its architecture, to make it more deterrent for cyber criminals," Prasad said.

The ministry has already set up a small group of officials under secretary Aruna Sundararajan.

Recently, minister for communications <u>Manoj Sinha</u> told Parliament the Act had a legal framework for privacy and <u>security</u> of data in digital format. Besides providing compensation to a victim in an unauthorised access and leakage of sensitive personal information.

The government has formed two teams in CERT-In, one to respond to cyber-attacks and the other to monitor digital payments, which has, in the past one month, seen a 1,000 per cent surge. The ministry has till date issued eight advisories on usage of different types of digital payments.

"All digital payments agencies have been asked to report to CERT-In any unusual activity on their platforms. We are taking several measures to ensure a resilient system. We will audit the IT infra of NPCI (National Payments Corporation of India) and have formed crack teams at CERT-In for immediate response. CITOs (chief IT officers) have been appointed in every ministry and government department. We are undertaking a massive programme to create awareness among the administrative machinery," the minister said.

To strengthen cyber security, the ministry has approved 26 new posts in CERT-In and five state CERTs.

News Source: <u>http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/cyber-attacks-it-ministry-asks-</u> twitter-to-reinforce-security-forms-special-team-116121301194\_1.html

# M3. IT Minister orders measures to strengthen India's cyber security

Economic Times. 14 December 2016

Union minister of *electronics and IT*, Ravi Shankar Prasad said that he has ordered a review of the "entire IT infrastructure" of India and the need of the hour is ...

NEW DELHI: In view of the several hacking incidents in the country by the so-called hacker group 'Legion', the ministry of electronics and IT has ordered a series of measures including <u>audit</u> of the financial sector starting immediately with the National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI), review of the IT Act to make it stronger and setting up a crack team to respond to unusual incidents on a war footing. Social networking site Twitter has also been asked to strengthen its network and all stakeholders of the financial industry including payment and wallet firm have been asked to immediately report any untoward incident.

Union minister of electronics and IT, <u>Ravi Shankar Prasad</u> said that he has ordered a review of the "entire IT infrastructure" of India and the need of the hour is "hardening" of the security wall. "There is huge traffic flowing through the IT platforms, if there is any mishap, the systems have to be resilient and we have to take appropriate measures," said Prasad. A digital payment section has been created in CERT-In, an agency which monitors the Internet traffic on a real time basis given the ongoing momentum in cashless payments in the country. "We have to be alert, there is nothing to be scared of," he added. Prasad also called for a meeting of the security and technical staff of banks on Tuesday. The meeting was attended by over 50 officers from banks such as IDFC, ICICI, SBI, <u>Canara Bank</u> among others.

Under the IT Act it is mandatory for all institutions to report cyber incidents to CERT-In, however prompt reporting of such incidents, especially by banks has not happened in the past.

Prasad said that all digital payment firms have been asked to report any unusual movement immediately to CERT. "We have sought details from all the people whose accounts have been hacked and Twitter has also been asked to strengthen its security and to pay attention to any unusual movement," said Prasad.

In an online interview to ET on Monday, the hacker group had said that the Indian banking system is "deeply flawed". They also claimed that it has been hacked several <u>times</u> adding that several other groups have access to key banking institutions. The group which has so far hacked into the Twitter accounts of Congress vice president Rahul Gandhi's, official account of Indian National Congress, liquor baron Vijay Mallya, journalists Barkha Dutt and <u>Ravish Kumar</u>, as well as news channel <u>NDTV</u> said that NPCI, IRDBT and a popular e-wallet firm's servers are compromised, and have been attacked at the root level. IDRBT is a technology service provider for banks in India, offering technology services that are critical for the payment systems of the country.

Prasad said that the ministry has started a review of the IT Act in order to strengthen it as the Act was formed in 2000, almost 16 year ago – and may have to be updated to deal with the move towards digital payments and mobile banking. ET had reported about the intent to review the IT Act to make it more

current even before the hacking incidents took <u>place</u>. "India is going towards digital payments and we need to reinforce the entire architecture," said Prasad. He added that all ministries have also been asked to appoint Central Information Security Officers apart from creating awareness among people regarding <u>cyber security</u>.

Two major initiatives to curb cyber crime – the BotNet Centre and the National Cyber Coordination Centre will also be expedited and are expected to come up before the end of this financial year.

News Source: <u>http://cio.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/government-policy/it-minister-orders-measures-to-strengthen-indias-cyber-security/55973270</u>

# M4. Surge in e-transactions: CERT-In audits NPCI as pre-emptive step

The Indian Express-14 December 2016

A closed group has been formed under the Secretary of Ministry of **Electronics and Information Technology** Aruna Sundararajan to review the Information ...

*News Source:* <u>http://indianexpress.com/article/business/business-others/surge-in-e-transactions-cert-in-audits-npci-as-pre-emptive-step-4425866/</u>

# M5. <u>Centre mulls review of IT Act to strengthen cyber security</u>

The Hindu-13 December 2016

The Ministry of *Electronics and IT* (MeitY), which will soon issue advisories to all ... cyber security, the ministry of *electronics and information technology* (IT) had ...

NEW DELHI: The government is mulling to review the over 15-year old Information Technology (IT) Act to strengthen the cyber security infrastructure, following the push for digital payments post demonetisation. "The IT Act came out in 2000. Since then it has by and large served us well...Now, as we move towards digital economy, we are reviewing if there is a need to re-look at the IT Act architecture to make it more of a deterrent for cyber criminals," Minister for Electronics and IT Ravi Shankar Prasad said.

A "closed group", under IT Secretary Aruna Sundarajan, has been set up look into various aspects of the Act in line with the changing times and reinforce the IT architecture.

The Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY), which will soon issue advisories to all digital payment agencies, including banks and e-wallets providers, "to harden security walls", has also set up a separate 'digital payments' division under CERT-In — its cyber security arm — to monitor and strengthen the cashless transactions.

"All digital payments agencies have been asked to report to CERT-IN any unusual activity that they see on their platforms," Mr. Prasad said. The division was set up recently after the November 8 announcement by Prime Minister to withdraw old Rs.500 and Rs.1000 notes from circulation.

The Minister said: "We are taking several measures to ensure a resilient system. We will audit IT infra of NPCI... have formed crack teams at CERT-In for immediate response ...There are CIOs who have been appointed in every ministry and govt department... We are undertaking massive program to create awareness among administrators, judges etc..

To strengthen cyber security, the ministry of electronics and information technology (IT) had recently approved 26 new posts in Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) and five state CERTs.

The minister also met senior representatives of RBI as well as public and private sector banks, and NPCI. While asking the banks to incentivise digital payments and transactions, Mr Prasad said to address concerns of cyber security, the IT ministry will soon conduct security drill both for the banks and NPCI.

During the meeting Ms Sundararajan asserted that banks should set up an easy to access helpline dedicated for resolution of issues pertaining to digital payment transactions.

News Source: <u>http://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/Centre-mulls-review-of-IT-Act-to-strengthen-cyber-security/article16801548.ece</u>

# M6. Govt alert over cyber criminals gaining access to fin data

Times of India-4 hours ago

The IT ministry is leading the process in close coordination with home ministry, national security adviser and Cabinet secretariat, minister **Ravi Shankar Prasad** ...

NEW DELHI: The government has sounded an "alert" over safety of financial data emanating from a large number of digital transactions following the demonetisation measure, and has started work on reinforcing preparedness of the country's IT infrastructure to guard against cybercrimes and data thefts. The IT ministry is leading the process in close coordination with home ministry, national security adviser and Cabinet secretariat, minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said.

The IT ministry has also called for an audit of National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) -the umbrella organisation for all retail payment systems in the country and banks, official sources said. Sources also said that show-cause notice has been issued to some banks over under-preparedness to handle cybercrimes and protect critical financial data.

Prasad said that there is increased concern after the government's move to push for a cashless economy that has prompted a large portion of the population to opt for digital transactions. "There is huge traffic on IT platforms.We have to ensure a resilient system to take appropriate measures... We have to be on an alert."

Teams from Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) are working on the issue in tandem with intelligence and other financial security agencies. "All cyber issues related to digital payments are being handled on a top priority basis," the minister said. "Also, we have asked all digital payment agencies to report any instance of unusual movements across setup."

New technologies used by hackers are seen as fresh challenges as they may lead to new kinds of cyber frauds. This has prompted the ministry to look at a rehaul of the IT Act.

News Source: <u>http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/trend-tracking/govt-alert-over-cyber-criminals-gaining-access-to-fin-data/articleshow/55974362.cms</u>

# M7.HC seeks govt response to telcos' understated income thatcost exchequer over Rs 12,488 crore

Economic Times / Dec 14, 2016

NEW DELHI: The Punjab & Haryana High Court has sought responses from the government, the Ministry of Communications, the **Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology** and the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) on steps they're taking to recover a "loss" of over Rs 12,488 crore to the exchequer after six telecom companies allegedly underreported income.

Similar notices were also issued to the Director General of Audit (Post &

Telecommunications) on Monday on a public interest litigation filed by Gurgaon resident Harinder Dhingra last month.

The petitioner wants the telecom ministry to "finalise and act" upon the CAG's audit report submitted on March 11. Responses to the notices need to be filed by February 2.

The audit report pertains to Bharti Airtel, Vodafone India, Aircel, Idea Cellular, Tata

Teleservices and Reliance Communications "underreporting/understating" their revenue to the tune of. `46,045.75 crore over four years from 200607 to 20092010.

The companies had denied any wrongdoing, saying the issue was about the interpretation of adjusted gros s revenue (AGR), which is crucial for calculating their annual licence fees and spectrum usage charges. The matter regarding the definition of AGR is pending in various courts. The CAG's findings had prompt ed the government to start a

special audit for the three years to FY11to determine if telcos had any outstanding dues. Subsequently, the Department of

Telecommunications sent out demand notices to the six companies for acumulative Rs 12,488 crore. According to the petitioner, the government is yet to recover the amount of .`12,488.93 crore, excluding p enalty and taxes, from the six

companies. The petitioner sought directions to the Central government "not to inordinately delay the proc ess of recovery of actual loss caused to the public exchequer" by the telecom companies.

Meanwhile, the office of the Controller of Communication Accounts, Punjab & Haryana Telecom Circle, has issued demand notices on outstanding spectrum usage charges for pre-

2009 cases, as pointed out by the CAG. Referring to the special audit, the petitioner said the

findings and the conclusions recorded in the CAG's report "cannot be made subject of scrutiny or reevaluation by the chartered

accountants empanelled with the ministry as the CAG is a constitutional authority and has been permitted audit by the Supreme Court." He

argued that "instead of immediately acting on these startling revelations (by CAG), it is strange that the m atter is being inordinately delayed."

News Source: <u>http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/hc-seeks-govt-response-to-telcos-understated-income-that-cost-exchequer-over-rs-12488-crore/articleshow/55969824.cms</u>

# N. News on NIC (10 news items)

# N1. Mobile App, SMS to plug midday meal loopholes

Times of India-14 December 2016

"These applications are developed by the National Informatics Centre, Odisha. The applications have been used on a pilot basis for the last one month in ...

Bhubaneswar: To check loopholes and ensure proper distribution of mid-day meal (MDM) scheme in schools, the state government has launched a mobile App and SMS-based application. The application is also aimed at preventing disruption in MDM, consumption of iron folic acid (IFA) tablets and check absenteeism among cooks and helpers.

"These applications are developed by the National Informatics Centre, Odisha. The applications have been used on a pilot basis for the last one month in Khurda and Sambalpur district and got very good response. Now it is in use across the state for the last couple of days," said a senior officer in the school and mass education department.

Sources said the mobile APP can be downloaded and used by anyone, including teachers, parents, NGOs and other stakeholders to monitor the mid-day meal scheme. It would help in checking false, abnormal reporting, corruption and misappropriation and also ghost beneficiaries.

Everyday headmasters or teacher in-charge of MDM scheme will send information through SMS on the number of students present, number of students served food, reason for not serving food, money and food availability with each of the schools and also the weekly consumption of IFA tablets in a tollfree number 15544.

The data will be analysed in block, district and state level every day to check any kind of discrepancies or irregularities. Earlier, MDM data was reported on a monthly basis. At present, 46,72,231 children are taking mid-day meal and food is cooked in 62,784 kitchens every day.

News Source: <u>http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bhubaneswar/mobile-app-sms-to-plug-midday-meal-loopholes/articleshow/55975926.cms</u>

# N2. <u>NIC apps to make life easier</u>

The Shillong 14 December 2016

SHILLONG: National Informatics Centre (NIC) has developed 10 mobile applications which aim to make life easier for people from all walks of life. For those who ...

#### As many as 10 apps for citizens, farmers & traders, among others

SHILLONG: National Informatics Centre (NIC) has developed 10 mobile applications which aim to make life easier for people from all walks of life.

For those who are searching for a maid, cook, sweeper or even a plumber can get services at the click of a button as one of the apps developed by NIC will enable people to locate skilled hands in no time. Once operational, citizens can register themselves by providing basic details and start searching for required skilled workers, get the contact details of the same and avail themselves of the services by making payments.

NIC has a database of around 1,000 job seekers from the employment exchange and those who will be employed have been trained in their respective fields at various institutes like ITIs and polytechnics. This app will be helpful for senior citizens too.

In addition, NIC has also come up with an Online Generic Recruitment Application System that provides end-to-end computerisation of applications submitted to the Meghalaya Public Service Commission (MPSC) and district selection committees (DSCs).

Job seekers can use this mobile app to apply for various posts advertised by MPSC and DSCs. Applicants can also check the status of their applications, download admission cards, intimation letters and get various updates.

All the 10 applications will be launched by the Chief Minister.

Another app has been designed for farmers who can get information on scientific methods of cultivation. The mobile application also provides the content documented for various crops by the Department of Agriculture. The content in the app can be viewed both in English and Khasi.

A new Meghalaya agri-marketing mobile application for farmers, traders, wholesalers, retailers and government officials will provide real time daily market prices and arrival data of various commodities from different market nodes in the State. The app also provides logins for agriculture and horticulture marketing inspectors known as reporters to update or report daily or weekly market prices and arrival data, both real time and last one week's, from their respective market nodes.

One more app, which has been developed for finance, is e-Waybill status verification that is G2E, G2C, G2B mobile application and it enables the tax official manning the check post to verify the authenticity of the road permit (Waybill) issued by the taxation office to enable the dealer to bring goods from outside the State. Using this app, a dealer can track whether the vehicle has crossed the check post.

News Source: http://www.theshillongtimes.com/2016/12/14/nic-apps-to-make-life-easier/

# N3. <u>SMS-based app to monitor MDM plan</u>

The New Indian Express-14 December 2016

Developed by National Informatics Centre (NIC), the SMS-based application would help monitor daily consumption of MDM as well as iron/folic acid (IFA) tablets ...

BHUBANESWAR: To bring in transparency in mid day meal (MDM) scheme implementation, the State Government has developed a SMS-based application which would monitor the programme on a real time basis.

Developed by National Informatics Centre (NIC), the SMS-based application would help monitor daily consumption of MDM as well as iron/folic acid (IFA) tablets on a weekly basis. This apart, attendance of cook-cum-helper of the schools would also be generated every month.

The system requires the headmasters/headmistress or MDM-in-charge to send SMS on a daily, weekly and monthly basis on the meal, IFA tablet and cook-cum-helper absentee statement data to a specified number 15544.

The monitoring system would also help understand the reasons behind interruption in the programme's execution in schools so that corrective measures can be taken by district, block and cluster level functionaries.

Under-reporting and false reporting by school authorities can also be detected through the system. The system has specified roles of functionaries right from school to State nodal office level. There are over 46.71 lakh children who take mid day meal on a daily basis on working days. There are about 62,784 kitchens where the food is cooked. The massive scheme has run into controversy over quality of food and hygiene standards apart from pilferage.

News Source: <u>http://www.newindianexpress.com/states/odisha/2016/dec/14/sms-based-app-to-monitor-mdm-plan-1548791.html</u>

# N4. Software to facilitate cashless transactions

The Hindu-14 December 2016

Haryana Additional Chief Secretary, Home, Ram Niwas on Tuesday said that a software was being developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC) after ...

Haryana Additional Chief Secretary, Home, Ram Niwas on Tuesday said that a software was being developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC) after getting feedback from the departments across the State to facilitate cashless transactions.

Mr. Ram Niwas was presiding over a review meeting with the Heads of Departments concerned of Gurugram district regarding connecting the departments with digital transaction system at mini-secretariat here.

### **Promoting e-transactions**

He directed the officials to hold regular meetings with the staff to promote e-transactions in place of cash transactions. He also directed them to install POS machines within a month to make their departments cashless or encourage government payments through e-Wallet, SBI Buddy, UPI and other modes. He said that the government had also announced rebate on digital transactions under which anyone making a payment of up to Rs. 2,000 through mobile, e-wallet and debit card would not be charged service tax. He directed the officers of Excise and Tax Department to meet with various traders' organisations to make the department cashless and also encourage them for digital payments.

It was informed that the Gurugram Police had installed two POS machines so accept challan payments through digital system. It was assured that payment of all type of challans would be made digital by the police in the next one month.

News Source: <u>http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Delhi/Software-to-facilitate-cashless-transactions/article16802435.ece</u>

# N5. <u>Software being developed to promote online transaction in Hry</u>

Business Standard-13 December 2016

A software is being developed by **National Informatics Centre** (NIC) to implement cashless transactions in various government departments of the state, ...

A software is being developed by National Informatics Centre (NIC) to implement cashless transactions in various government departments of the state, Haryana's Additional Chief Secretary (Home) Ram Niwas said today.

He said the software has been developed after getting feedback from all the concerned departments.

Niwas was presiding over a review meeting with the heads of the department (HoDs) of Gurgaon district regarding connecting the departments with <u>digital transaction</u> system.

He said that the state government is promoting cashless transaction through electronic mode of payment.

Niwas also directed the HoDs to hold regular meetings with the officers and employees so as to motivate them to adopt e-<u>transaction</u> instead of using cash, an official release said.

He also asked them to install POS machines within one month and encourage <u>government</u> payments through paytm, e-Wallet, <u>SBI</u>Buddy, UPI and other mediums.

The chief secretary said that the <u>government</u> has announced rebate on using <u>digital</u> transactions under which anyone making payment of upto Rs 2,000 through mobile, e-wallet and debit card would not be charged service tax.

"Dakshin <u>Haryana</u> Bijli Vitran Nigam received Rs 400 crore to Rs 450 crore every month on account of payment of electricity bill in Gurgaon out of which about Rs 50 crore is paid through <u>cash</u> by the consumers.

"But out of this amount, payment of about Rs 2.74 crore has been made through paytm this time," he said.

Gurgaon Police has installed two POS machines so as to provide the facility of paying the amount of challan through <u>digital</u> and the payment of all type of challans will be made <u>digital</u> by the police in the next one month.

(This story has not been edited by Business Standard staff and is auto-generated from a syndicated feed.)

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/software-being-developed-to-promote-online-transaction-in-hry-116121301210 1.html

# N6. 'Anarchists' Legion claim to have sansad emails

Business Standard-13 December 2016

Sansad is the email service for parliamentarians that is managed by **National Informatics Centre**, the government's technology arm. The move which is being ...

India's latest Internet sensation is a group of 7-9 individuals who call themselves Legion. They have no face, no individual name, no apparent motive, but seem to be quite media savvy and seeking attention.

In interviews with multiple publications, a member of the group <u>Legion</u> that has so far hacked the <u>emails</u> of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, liquor baron Vijay Mallya, and journalists Barkha Dutt and Ravish Kumar, said that their next conquest would involve dumping classified <u>emails</u> of parliamentarians.

"Next is a dump of sansad.nic.in emails. Which is quite big. It includes a lot of \_BIG FISH\_," said the <u>hackers</u> to online technology publication Factor Daily on Monday.

<u>Sansad</u> is the email service for parliamentarians that is managed by National Informatics Centre, the government's technology arm.

The move which is being built up as a tidal wave against corrupt politicians and lawmakers could have big repercussions in revealing other sensitive data about the country. However, the <u>hackers</u> say harm to innocents isn't going to deter them from releasing the information.

In other interviews, the group says it has no political motivation or agenda and isn't handpicking candidates to hack but has just got its hands on "terabytes" of information and letting the data pick its targets. "We are a bunch of computer geeks addicted to crime and drugs," the <u>hackers</u> told Washington Post.

Lalit Modi's name has featured in the prospective list of targets. <u>Legion</u> also has a bit of advice for India's agenda of pushing digital payments. The group has said that digital payments, including the government's favourite NEFT/IMPS protocols have been cracked and are vulnerable.

"We ourselves have confidential data pertaining to NPCI/ IDRBT hub servers, and even have the encryption keys/ certificates used by some banks in India," the <u>hackers</u> told Factors Daily, claiming themselves as "anarchists" who are wanted by multiple international agencies.

"The question is, will they ever find us? And if they do- will they prosecute us with enough evidence? And if they do, will the world be a better place? Or will it miss the superior cyber criminals it just lapsed behind bars?" the <u>hackers</u> claimed.

Moreover, the group's support for PM Modi's Digital India campaign wasn't the strongest, suggesting that the government should look into the security of all its systems, especially payments, before launching anything new. "We support #DigitalIndia, only with cryptocurrency! What's better than holding your own money?" they added.

News Source: <u>http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/anarchists-legion-claims-to-have-sansad-emails-116121300617\_1.html</u>

# N7. Hacker group Legion warns release of government emails hosted ...

Firstpost-13 December 2016

The email service is provided by **National Informatics Centre**, which designs, builds and manages all the information and communication technology systems ...

After some controversial hacks into Twitter accounts and emails of popular Indian journalists, businessmen and politicians, the latest entrants in hack-town, Legion, has said that it will be releasing new data containing emails hosted on the government-owned Sansad.nic.in.

The hacker group revealed its next target while speaking to the tech website, FactorDaily.com, via an encrypted chat platform on Monday.

In the <u>interview</u>, the hacker group revealed that the data of emails hosted on Sansad.nic.in, includes a lot of big fish. "Next is a dump of Sansad.nic.in emails, which is quite big. It includes a lot of big fish," the interview quoted a member of the hacker group as saying.

A grab of Sansad.nic.in website

Sansad.nic.in is a government run free email service, which offers email IDs with @gov.in address to government employees (central or state). The email service is provided by National Informatics Centre, which designs, builds and manages all the information and communication technology systems used by the Government of India.

Although the group didn't clearly indicate its motive behind hacking Sansad.nic.in, when the tech website asked the member of Legion whether it's worried about innocent that may get affected in the process, the hacker group justified its hack of the email platform by calling it a punishment for using an insecure platform like Sansad.nic.in. "If it does damage innocents - it's their problem for using an insecure mail service," it told FactorDaily.com.

It also said that the data revealed will be interesting considering only government-affiliated people get email addresses from Sansad.nic.in.

There's not much known about the origins of the hacker group, however contradicting information has been revealed about the location of the hacker group. While The Washington Post, <u>stated</u> that the group is based out of India, in FactorDaily.com interview, a member of the Legion claimed to be based somewhere in eastern Europe.

Interestingly, some reports claimed that the hackers are contracted by the Modi government, but the Legion member rejected the theory in the interview with FactorDaily.com.

The group has also shown its displeasure in the Narendra Modi government's push for digital currency and #DigitalIndia campaign stating the Indian banking system is too easy to hack, and that the government should think about it.

News Source: <u>http://www.firstpost.com/politics/hacker-group-legion-warns-release-of-government-emails-hosted-on-sansad-nic-in-3153516.html</u>

# N8. Gun owners asked to obtain UIDs at the earliest

Times of India-12-Dec-2016

*UID numbers are generated after digitising arms licences from the national database using a software developed by the National Informatics Centre* (*NIC*).

KOCHI: With the city reporting two deaths due to firearms in the recent past and one person getting injured, gun control is now a worry for law enforcers.

The police after being tipped off by a labourer had found a packet containing an air pistol, sharp-edged weopons and some medicine strips used to treat anxiety, abandoned on the premises of the airport.

An investigation into the incident has now been extended to Gujarat and Maharashtra. The district collector on December 3 issued a direction asking gun owners to get their UIDs at the earliest. UID numbers are generated after digitising arms licences from the national database using a software developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC).Even those who own airguns will now have to apply for license and obtain UIDs.

Air weapons did not require arms licence until recently. As per the Arms Rules, 2016 any air rifle generating more than 20 joules of energy will require a licence. The police, based on the amend ed rules had registered a case against Jose Maveli, who was running a campaign to eradicate stray dogs, and two others George Joseph and James Pambakkal of St Thomas College Old Students Welfare Association who gifted him the air rifle.

Air weapons having muzzle energy exceeding 20 joules or 15 foot-pound (ftlbs) or bore exceed footpound (ftlbs) or bore exceeding 0.177 or 4.5 mm shall be subject to the licensing requirements like any other firearm. The sale is also restricted to maximum three firearms as specified in section 3 of the Arms Act, 1959. It can only be kept and sold through authorized arms and ammunition dealers licenced under the Arms Rules, 2016.

Paintball guns having muzzle en ergy exceeding 90 ms or 300 fts (300 fps) have also been brought under the ambit of licence.

A 47-year-old man who allegedly shot himself in Kothamangalam in August got the gun from a man who gave it to him for repair. The autopsy revealed that the wound from the air gun pellet caused the death.

"In case a person possesses gun having muzzle energy that exceeds the limit, then heshe will have to get a licence and the UID will be issued along with it," said additional district magistrate, C K Prakash.

The directive was issued following the amendment of Arms Rules 2016. "There are around 5,000 licensed gun owners in the district. The government will be able to compile details of guns and licence holders soon," said additional district magistrate C K Prakash.

## WHAT THE ARMS RULES (2016) SAY

Sale or transfer of air weapons, including air rifles and air guns, having muzzle energy exceeding 20 joules or 15 foot-pound (ftlbs) or bore exceeding 0.177 or 4.5 mm shall be subject to the licensing requirements like any other firearm.

News Source: <u>http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kochi/Gun-owners-asked-to-obtain-UIDs-at-the-earliest/articleshow/55954014.cms</u>

# N9. Soon, apply for driving licences online at Panvel RTO

Times of India-09-Dec-2016

The Sarathi 4.0 version application, developed by **National Informatics Centre** (NIC), will help track all licences online across India. NIC has also developed ...

Navi Mumbai: Panvel RTO is installing a system after which people can apply online for driving licences. Deputy RTO Panvel Anand Patil said that they were in the process of installing Sarathi 4.0 version software.

"The system will go online before New Year. The applicants can apply for a licence online. They have to upload all documents and pay the fees online," Patil said.

The applicants do not need to submit copies of documents and payment receipts, he added. "They have to come to the office with original documents for verification. The online application will be made available across India," he said.

The Sarathi 4.0 version application, developed by National Informatics Centre (NIC), will help track all licences online across India. NIC has also developed Vahan software for vehicle registration.

The facility is likely to be implemented next month. The applications will help compile data for vehicle registration and driving licences in state and national registers.

News Source: <u>http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/navi-mumbai/Soon-apply-for-driving-licences-online-at-Panvel-RTO/articleshow/55900348.cms</u>

## N10. कैशलेस लेन-देन समय की जरूरत

दैनिक जागरण-14 December 2016

इस अवसर पर **एनआइसी** की टीम ने छात्रों को ई-पेमेंट की ट्रेंनग भी दी। उन्होंने कहा कि तकनीकी युग में डिजिटल पेमेंट मोड ...

जागरण संवाददाता, झज्जर : प्रधान सचिव एवं जिला के नोडल अधिकारी श्रीकांत वाल्गद ने कहा कि नगद रहित लेन देन की अपेक्षा डिजिटल भुगतान समय की जरूरत है। ऐसे में सभी अधिकारी एवं कर्मचारी जिले में जन जागरण अभियान चलाते हुए कैशलेस लेन देन प्रक्रिया को बढ़ावा दें। वाल्गद मंगलवार को झज्जर लघ् सचिवालय सभागार में जिले के अधिकारियों की कैशेलस के क्रियान्वयन को लेकर समीक्षात्मक बैठक ले रहे थे। उपायुक्त रमेश चंद्र बिढ़ाण ने प्रशासनिक सचिव का स्वागत करते हुए बताया कि झज्जर जिले में सक्षम योजना के तहत य्वाओं को जागरूकता के लिए जोड़ा गया है। कैशलेस प्रक्रिया को बढ़ावा देने के लिए जिलेभर में जागरूकता अभियान चलाया जा रहा है। सभी विभागों को कैशलेस लेन देन की प्रक्रिया को बढ़ावा देने के निर्देश दिए गए हैं। - श्रीकांत वाल्गद ने कहा कि इंटरनेट बैं कग, विभिन्न मोबाइल ऐप, पेटीएम इत्यादि के माध्यम से लेन देन प्रक्रिया को किया जा सकता है जोकि आसान व स्रक्षित है। उन्होंने कहा कि प्रा हरियाणा आज डिजिटल भुगतान की ओर अग्रसर है और इसमें सभी की सजग भागीदारी ही नगदी की समस्या से छुटकारा पाने का सशक्त माध्यम है। उन्होंने बैठक में डिजिटल भुगतानों के प्रति जागरूक व प्रोत्साहित करते हुए बैंक के प्रतिनिधियों के साथ स्लाईड प्रेजेंटेंशन के माध्यम से अधिकारियों को जागरूक भी किया। प्रशिक्षण में विभिन्न डिजिटल भुगतानों को करने के लिए मोबाईल ऐप, इंटरनेट बैं कग इत्यादि के माध्यम से जानकारी दी गई। उन्होंने बैंक अधिकारियों को डिजिटल भुगतान करने के उद्देश्य के लिए बैंकों द्वारा विशेष शिविरों का आयोजन करने के निर्देश दिए। उन्होंने कहा कि इस कार्य में शुरूआती तौर में थोड़ी बहुत दिक्कत आ सकती है, लेकिन जब हम इस कार्य को निरंतर करते रहेंगे तो वो दिक्कत भी दूर हो जाएगी। उन्होंने कहा कि ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में अनपढ़ और कम पढ़े लिखे लोग जिनका बैंक खाता है , उन लोगों को डिजिटल भृगतान करने में दिक्कत आ सकती है, जिसके लिए वे अपने शिक्षित बच्चों की मदद ले सकते हैं। सरकारी खातों से लेनदेन प्रक्रिया होगी डिजिटल उपायुक्त बिढ़ाण ने बताया कि जिले के शहरी व ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में जागरूकता शिविरों का आयोजन कर सरपंचों, पंचों, आंगनबाड़ी कार्यकर्ताओं, चौकीदार व नंबरदार इत्यादि को डिजिटल भुगतानों के प्रति शिक्षित किया जा रहा है और उनके मोबाइल फोन पर भुगतान ऐप इंस्टॉल करने के प्रति प्रोत्साहित किया जा रहा है। इसके अलावा लोगों की स्विधा के लिए बैंकों व गांव में स्थापित सीएससी पर भी बैंकों के द्वारा बैंक मित्र उपलब्ध करवाए गए है, जो लोगों की डिजिटल भुगतान करने में मदद करेंगे। प्रधान सचिव ने नेहरू कॉलेज में किया छात्रों को जागरूक प्रधान सचिव श्रीकांत वाल्गद ने राजकीय नेहरू कालेज के सभागार में कालेज स्टाफ, छात्र-छात्राओं को संबोधित किया और उन्हें कैशलेस लेन देन की प्रक्रिया में ना केवल भागीदार बनने बल्कि अपने परिजनों, पड़ोसियों और अपने क्षेत्र में अन्य परिचित लोगों को कैशलेस लेन देन की प्रक्रिया में भागीदार बनाने का आहवान किया। उन्होंने कहा कि ईपेमेंट से आर्थिक व्यवहार में पारदर्शिता आएगी, समय की बचत होगी, कैश की समस्या खत्म होगी। उन्होंने कहा कि देश में नए आर्थिक युग में प्रवेश कर रहा है। शिक्षित वर्ग देश में आर्थिक पारदर्शिता को आगे बढ़ाने में अपनी अहम जिम्मेदारी निभाएं। इस अवसर पर एनआइसी की टीम ने छात्रों को ई-पेमेंट की ट्रेंनग भी दी। उन्होंने कहा कि तकनीकी युग में डिजिटल पेमेंट मोड भविष्य की आर्थिक गतिविधियों का आधार बनकर उभरा है। उपायुक्त आर बिढ़ाण ने कहा कि डिजिटल पेमेंट को बढ़ावा देने के लिए शिक्षित वर्ग की भूमिका अहम है। सरकार ने डिजिटल पेमेंट के माध्यम से ईमानदार व पारदर्शी आर्थिक व्यवस्था बनाने की ओर कदम बढ़ा दिया है। अब सभी जागरूक व शिक्षित नागरिकों की जिम्मेवारी बनती है कि वे आगे बढ़कर इस प्रक्रिया को सफल बनाएं। इस मौके पर एसडीएम बेरी संजय राय, एसडीएम बहादूरगढ़ मनीषा शर्मा, एसडीएम झज्जर प्रदीप कौशिक, सीटीएम विजय "सह,सहित अन्य अधिकारीगण मौजूद रहे। वहीं कालेज में प्राचार्या प्रो.रणजीत कौर मदान, प्रो. रवि किरण मदान, प्रो.एस के पूनिया सहित अन्य स्टाफ मौजूद रहे

News Source: http://www.jagran.com/haryana/jhajjar-15199908.html

# S. News on "STPI" (2 news items)

# S1. STPI Hyderabad holds awareness session

The Hans India-11-Dec-2016

Hyderabad: The **Software Technology Parks of India**, Hyderabad conducted an in-house awareness session for its employees and the service providers to ...

Hyderabad: The Software Technology Parks of India, Hyderabad conducted an in-house awareness session for its employees and the service providers to propagate the initiatives and strategies of Government of India for non-cash transactions here on Saturday.

During the session, all the participants were trained on the usage of money transactions through a digital platform like Bank cards, e-wallets, POS, USSD and micro ATM.

The Director of STPI- Hyderabad CVD Ramprasad said that Software Technology Parks of India is planning to conduct many awareness sessions in association with governments of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, industry association & other governmental organisations and educational institutions to propagate the cashless transactions in the States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

News Source: <u>http://www.thehansindia.com/posts/index/Telangana/2016-12-11/STPI-Hyderabad-holds-awareness-session/268226</u>

# S2. <u>1100 seats allocated to State under India BPO Promotion Scheme</u>

Daily Pioneer-10-Dec-2016

The **Software Technology Parks of India** (STPI), an autonomous society of (MeitY) has been designated as the Nodal Agency for implementation of the IBPS.

A total of 1,100 seats have been allocated under Central Government's India BPO Promotion Scheme (IBPS) for creation of employment opportunities and promotion of BPO/ITES under Digital India programme in Chhattisgarh, top Government officials said on Saturday.

Till now, two companies for a total of 500 seats have been declared successful to set up BPO/ITES operations at Raipur, the officials added.

The Union Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), has notified the "India BPO Promotion Scheme (IBPS)" under Digital India Programme, which provides financial support in the form of Viability Gap Funding to eligible companies.

The Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), an autonomous society of (MeitY) has been designated as the Nodal Agency for implementation of the IBPS.

The IBPS aims to incentivize establishment of 48,300 seats in respect of BPO/ITeS operations across the country with information made available by the Ministry of the eligible seat-slab among each State and maximum number of seats per bidder in a State.

Notably, the STPI in Bhilai had been providing incubation services to start-ups and SMEs.

On the other hand, it may be recalled that in February last year, The National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) had announced that it would establish its 'Incubation Centre' in Chhattisgarh.

Chief Minister Raman Singh during his visit to Bengaluru where he was as chief guest to attend 'Vision Summit- 2015' organised by the India Electronics and Semi-Conductors' Association (I.E.S.A) in Bangalore, Karnataka had stated that he had met the Chairman and senior scientists of Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and the representatives of NASSCOM during the 'Vision Summit -2015'.

Singh had stated that NASSCOM will open an 'Incubation Centre' in Chhattisgarh which will provide better guidance, technical knowledge and information related to the industry besides other help to the IT students.

Efforts will be made to provide technical and financial assistance to the students for entrepreneurship development, Singh said.

The 'Incubation Centre' will serve as a good platform for students, said Singh, adding, the IT majors and investors wishing to invest in IT sector are likely to visit Chhattisgarh during the coming days.

Satisfied by his tour, Singh had stated that discussions were also held with the investors regarding investment in Defense sector in Chhattisgarh.

Representatives of India's well known companies present in the 'Vision Summit 2015' have evinced interest for making investment in new sectors in the State.

The investors present at the Summit believed that Chhattisgarh is a better place for IT industry,' Singh had stated.

In April last year, the Chhattisgarh government and NASSCOM had also signed a MoU, in which NASSCOM agreed to provide necessary guidance to State's Information Technology Department for promoting Information Technology and Skill Development of youth in Chhattisgarh.

The Chhattisgarh Government will be hiring highly qualified system integrators for making assessment besides providing training and ensuring placement of fresh IT and ITeS graduates under the "Mukhya Mantri Yuva Swavalamban Yojana", officials informed.

The "Mukhya Mantri Yuva Swavalamban Yojana" project is a major initiative taken by Chhattisgarh government aimed to improve placement rates of fresh college graduates of three and four year degree courses in IT and ITeS sectors.

The program envisages providing training to students in such areas of aptitude that are required to successfully navigate the selection process of IT and BPM employers and secure placement. The training will be designed with a view on the in-demand skills and abilities in contemporary employment market. The training will be delivered by leading trainers who will also make necessary arrangements for the employment opportunities for placing a minimum of 60% of the total students undergoing the training program.

Notably, Chhattisgarh has already established itself as a major educational hub with presence of premier institutions like NIT, IIM, NLU and AIIMS. It also, has many other world class educational institutions for professional programmes such as Engineering, MCA and MBA as well as in Humanities, Commerce and the Sciences, officials informed.

However, there is a gap between the number of students graduating and the number of students getting placed. There is a tangible gap between present state of aptitude and the required aptitude for getting selected in prestigious organizations, they informed. Hence, there is a need to establish the platform which could increase the employment opportunities. It is an observed trend that most employers in IT and ITeS sector have rigorous training programmes that provide the necessary technical skills that are required to perform the jobs for which they hire. The focus, when these employers hire, is on assessing a range of abilities.

News Source: <u>http://www.dailypioneer.com/state-editions/1100-seats-allocated-to-state-under-india-bpo-promotion-scheme.html</u>

# **O. Other ICT News (3 news items)**

# O1. IBM launches cyber security command centre for India

Via The Times of India (Mumbai edition) | Sujit John, Bengaluru | Dec 14, 2016

IBM has launched what it says is a state-of-art cyber security command centre in Bengaluru to offer customized security solutions to its Indian clients. The company says it planned this long before the extra push for digital in India came from demonetization. But the current environment makes the move look particularly relevant. Concerns about security are becoming top-of-mind for many involved as the Modi government aggressively pushes digital payments. Sandeep Sinha Roy, head of security services in IBM India, indicated that those concerns are not misplaced. "We deal with an average of 140 million incidents in India a month," he said. Incidents can involve inadvertent or malicious acts by internal employees of companies, or external threats. The new centre can offer tailor-made solutions for clients, provide alerts and advisories based on global events, 24x7 emergency response services for security breaches, and services to manage the security of devices being used by employees. It can ensure that data resides within the country and never leaves, a compliance requirement that some enterprises in India need to follow. IBM will bring the power of its Watson cognitive computing system also to the space, enabling it to provide a whole new level of analytics and instant response.

Mathew Newfield, director of managed security services in IBM, said Watson is being beta tested with 40 global clients. "We'll start training Watson in the Indian environment shortly," he said. Systems like Aadhaar and UPI (unified payment interface) make the Indian environment different from others. Newfield said Watson can do in seconds what a security engineer will take hours to do. "If there are 100,000 devices in an organization's infrastructure, Watson can look at all the ongoing, real-time threats, and instantaneously understand which of those devices are susceptible to the attacks. If there's a big security event globally, Watson can figure out quickly which clients in India have a profile that make them susceptible," he said. Roy said the financial sector in India, especially banks, has been very serious about security, and has become more so with the recent push towards digital. "These (digital security solutions) are the guards of the future, not the security guard at the bank branch," he said.

 $News Source: \ \underline{http://epaperbeta.timesofindia.com/Article.aspx?eid=31804 \& articlexml=IBM-launches-cyber-security-command-centre-for-India-14122016022034$ 

## O2. Trump's comment: Software industry bitten again by visa issue bug

Via The Hindu Business Line | Venkatesh Ganesh, Bengaluru | Dec 14, 2016

The Indian software export industry is hopeful that economics will prevail eventually over the recent spate of anti-globalisation and protectionism emanating from developed markets such as the US and the UK. President-elect Donald Trump's recent comments indicating closer scrutiny and deeper scrutiny into all visas abuses, has rattled the Indian IT exporters. "We don't understand the mindset here. On one hand we are being termed as job takers while on the other, IBM and Microsoft have prospered using Indian talent," says a frustrated CEO of one of the top five IT exporters requesting anonymity. While these issues have surfaced innumerably in the past, this time around it may be more than noise. One of the main reasons has to do with the appointment of Jeff Sessions as Attorney General. Ravinder Rana, Country General Manager at Concentrix, points out that while work visas for Indian workers would not be stopped overnight, concerns are around how this will be dealt with.

News Source: http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/info-tech/trumpoutsourcing/article9425269.ece

# O3. Microsoft selection for MHRD's Swayam violates policy: IT NPOs

Via The Economic Times | New Delhi | Dec 14, 2016

Academicians and not-for-profit organisations in the field of Information Technology today asked the Centre to reconsider the contract given to US software major Microsoft for development of 'Swayam' platform as it is in "direct contrast" with the government policy on open source softwares. "A group of concerned citizens and organisations comprising academicians and NGOs have written a letter to the MHRD Prakash Javadekar, requesting him to reconsider the decision of awarding Microsoft a contract to develop SWAYAM," Software Freedom Law Centre, a signatory to the letter, said in a statement.

News Source: <u>http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/software/microsoft-selection-for-mhrds-swayam-violates-policy-it-npos/articleshow/55963638.cms</u>



# I. iSource News Updates (52 Headlines)



Indo-China trade volume to touch \$65 billion during 2016: Official The Indian Express

The bi-lateral trade volume between India and China is expected to be over USD 65 billion for 2016 and focus by China will be in financial, ...



H-1B visa row in WTO may lead to trade retaliation against US The Hindu Business Line

H1B Visas

Months after India dragged the US to WTO over imposing increased fees on H-1B and L-1 visas, a Congressional report has warned American ...



Industry bodies oppose plan to hike Google Tax, say it'll hurt startups Hindustan Times

Amid reports that the government is looking to hike the equalisation levy (EL), also known as Google Tax, from 6 percent to 8 percent in the...



Legion hacking: Govt working on digital security walls, says Prasad The Hindu Business Line

After the hacker group Legion recently hacked accounts of some key persons such as Congress Vice-president Rahul Gandhi, and said it would ...



Mistry on way out of TCS The Hindu Business Line

The ousted Tata Sons Chairman Cyrus Mistry appeared certain to be removed from the board of directors of TCS at an extraordinary general ...



Wadia hits back Financial Chronicle

With Tata Sons seeking to remove him as director from main listed group entities, Nusli Wadia Monday hit back saying he has been targeted ...



H1B visas: After Donald Trump election, Infosys, Wipro, TCS raise local hiring in the US The Financial Express

Post-US presidential elections, protectionist voices have resurfaced on expected lines with the appointment of leading critics of H1B visas ...

#### IIT-BHU student bags Rs 1.20 crore Oracle offer The Times of India

Computer science, electronics and electrical engineering graduates emerged as the most popular choice of software and IT majors in...

Inside TCS EGM: Shareholders feel Rahul Bajaj or Kumarmangalam Birla could have helped resolve feud The Economic Times

There was no surprise at the TCS extraordinary general meeting, but several shareholders voiced their disappointment with the ...

Trump's comment: Software industry bitten again by visa issue bug The Hindu Business Line

The Indian software export industry is hopeful that economics will prevail eventually over the recent spate of anti-globalisation ...

IT firms have rarely traded at lower valuations, time to rethink Business Standard

For almost two decades, the information technology (IT) sector has been the traditional hedge when the rupee is under stress. ...

Top shareholders seek succession plan

Now, pursue passion & retain job

Read More





Nokia to incubate startups

ervice. No. 126

December 14, 2016

#### Deccan Herald

Cashing in on the burgeoning startup scenario of Bengaluru, Nokia (the network infrastructure) company, aims to incubate over a dozen ...



#### Meet 10 up-and-coming women-led startups in India Business Standard

Mishipay allows customers to walk out of the store, scan and pay items with the app, reports Tech in Asia. ...



Pune startup Serv'd gets \$1 lakh grant from Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation The Economic Times

Pune-based startup Serv'd, which aims to bring about financial inclusion in the unorganised sector has been given a \$100,000-grant from ...

TranServ to bring mVisa's contactless payments to toll booths, petrol pumps The Economic Times

Financial technology firm TranServ is rolling out mVisaenabled payments at toll booths and petrol pumps across the country. mVisa ...

Not angel or VC, it's crowdfunding for innovative startups The Economic Times

For startups with innovate products that are focused on solving specific mass problems, a couple of domestic crowd-funding ...

Khul Ja Sim Sim! ewallets use local lingo to unlock mkt The Economic Times (Bangalore edition)

The government's push towards digital economy has triggered a race among ewallet providers and banks to facilitate online ...

Read More



ervice. No. 126

December 14, 2016



```
Read More
```

## Software



For Zensar, digital begins at home first The Economic Times

RPG Group IT firm Zensar is working towards becoming a 100 percent digital enterprise, even as it works with customers to help them with ...



Microsoft selection for MHRD's Swayam violates policy: IT NPOs The Economic Times

Academicians and not-for-profit organisations in the field of Information Technology today asked the Centre to reconsider the contract given...

Kerala CM inaugurates IBS Software Kochi campus

The Hindu Business Line

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has inaugurated the proposed fully-owned and managed office campus of IBS Software at ...

Software to facilitate cashless transactions The Hindu

Haryana Additional Chief Secretary, Home, Ram Niwas on Tuesday said that a software was being developed by the National ...

#### Read More

### Hardware & Networking



Bajaj Electricals forms strategic alliance with UK based Gooee The Times of India

Bajaj Electricals has forged a strategic alliance with UK based firm Gooee to create innovative lighting products and solutions. The company...



Lenovo PC sales dip 20 percent on demonetisation, seasonal slowdown The Economic Times

Lenovo today said its PC sales have fallen by over 20 percent in the past few weeks due to the twin impact of demonetisation and seasonal ...

Demonetisation helps PoS device maker Verifone register highest growth in India Business Standard

Verifone said that the firm has seen a five-fold demand for its devices since the demonetisation move last month. ...

#### Read More



NI(

With less than 25 percent of the 65,475 gram panchayats in the country with optic fibre connectivity having active internet under the ...



IT ministry asks Twitter to reinforce security Business Standard

The ministry of electronics and information technology has asked the social media portal to 'strengthen security'.



Yes Bank, Grofers tie up to deliver cash at doorstep The Financial Express

Extending facility to deliver cash at doorstep, Yes Bank has now tied-up with e-grocer Grofers allowing customers to get cash of up to Rs ...



Facebook introduces portal for parents The Hindu Business Line

Social networking giant Facebook has launched a portal for parents to help them keep their children safe online. "To help parents get ...



Paytm processes Rs. 220 crore payment from retailers The Hindu Business Line

Digital payments platform Paytm today said it has processed sales of over Rs. 220 crore at retail partner outlets during its four-day ...



Net speed may be impacted as a cable hit by cyclone: Airtel The Tribune

Internet and broadband subscribers of Airtel may experience slower speed in the country as one of undersea cable of the company has been hit...



Amazon starts Prime Video Service in India

ervice. No. 126

December 14, 2016

The Economic Times

Ending months of speculations and wait over its launch date, Amazon, the Seattle-based ecommerce giant, is set to launch its Prime Video ...

Cap foreign investors' stake in e-pay cos The Times of India (Mumbai edition)

Digital wallet firm Mobikwik's founder and CEO Bipin Preet Singh has said foreign strategic investors' stake in online ...

Legion claims hacking into accountants' data Business Standard

Online vigilance group Legion has claimed they have hacked into data of accountants who help the rich hide their wealth. ...

Will it overtake SBI? Demonetisation may help Paytm turn around sooner than expected Business Standard

A report by Deloitte, part of company filings submitted by Paytm and reviewed by Business Standard, valued the company's ...

Facebook backs tutor enablement platform, XPrep The Economic Times

Tutor enablement platform, XPrep has been selected by Facebook for its global programme, FBStart, designed to help early stage ...

World Bank, Babajob.com announce partnership

Read More

## Mobility



Paytm dumping capital to gain customers: Bipin Preet Singh Business Standard

Mobikwik founder and Chief Executive Officer Bipin Preet Singh on Tuesday said Paytm, the largest player in the sector, has been ...



None of mobile payment apps in India fully secure: Qualcomm The Hindu Business Line

NIC Library News Clipping Service. No. 126

December 14, 2016

While government is pushing for digital payments through mobile phones, chipset maker Qualcomm said that wallets and mobile banking ...

#### Pokemon Go officially in India; RJio brings game with Niantic The Hindu Business Line

Indian users no longer will have to play pirated versions of the popular augmented reality game Pokemon Go. Five months after it ...

**IT Enabled Services** HGS to hire more than 1,000 for Canada operations The Hindu INDUJA Hinduja Global Solutions Limited (HGS) on Tuesday said it will hire 1,225 people for its Canada operations to meet the increased client ... VCs/PE/Funds Indifi raises \$10 million in Series B round The Hindu Business Line indifi Indifi Technologies, an enabler of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) financing in India, on Tuesday said it has raised \$10 million...

#### **People Moves**



#### Satyam Bansal exits Flipkart The Hindu Business Line

Satyam Bansal, Chief of Staff for Executive Chairman and co-founder of Flipkart Sachin Bansal exits Flipkart after a three year stint to ...

Read More

## Results/Stocks



IT stocks overcome Trumpspeak on jobs, beat Nifty 50 index The Hindu Business Line

After the initial slump on news of Donald Trump winning the US Presidential polls and its probable negative implications, the Nifty IT index...

#### Sagoon looks to bag Rs 133 crore via mini-IPO The Economic Times (Bangalore edition)

Social commerce venture Sagoon is in the process of raising \$20 million (about Rs 133 crore) in fresh funding through a ...

Read More

