

**INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF LAW**  
**MANAGEMENT & HUMANITIES**

**[ISSN 2581-5369]**

---

**Volume 5 | Issue 2**

---

**2022**

© 2022 *International Journal of Law Management & Humanities*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://www.ijlmh.com/>

Under the aegis of VidhiAagaz – Inking Your Brain (<https://www.vidhiaagaz.com/>)

---

This article is brought to you for “free” and “open access” by the International Journal of Law Management & Humanities at VidhiAagaz. It has been accepted for inclusion in the International Journal of Law Management & Humanities after due review.

In case of **any suggestion or complaint**, please contact [Gyan@vidhiaagaz.com](mailto:Gyan@vidhiaagaz.com).

---

**To submit your Manuscript** for Publication at the **International Journal of Law Management & Humanities**, kindly email your Manuscript at [submission@ijlmh.com](mailto:submission@ijlmh.com).

---

# Cyber Illiteracy and Cyber Intrusions: With Special Reference to Schedule Tribe of North-East India

---

PURANJAN PAUL<sup>1</sup> AND DEBARATI INDU<sup>2</sup>

## ABSTRACT

*Cyber space is one of the most talked about and important area in this technological era. This technological advancement yields many benefits to the society as a whole but it also embedded with serious concerns Such as Cyber Intrusions and Digital Divide. Compromising a computer system by compromising its security or forcing it to enter an unsecure state is known as cyber intrusion. Another important facet is the digital divide that refers to the disparity between people who have access to contemporary information and communication technology and the rest of the persons who are left out of this access for instance Schedule caste and Schedule Tribes. The Growing cyber concerns in India especially in the north eastern states creates a vulnerable situation that need to be addressed properly and cyber illiteracy is one of the important lacunas that facilitates the growing cyber-crimes. Cyber literacy is a vital aspect that is necessary in this technological era especially in the north eastern states in order to combat with the emerging cyber issues. It is also an undeniable fact that the scheduled tribes owing to their economic disparity and educational backwardness, they are not much equipped with the modern technologies which in turn fostering the cyber intrusions.*

**Keywords:** *Cyber Illiteracy, Cyber Intrusion, Digital Divide, Cyber Trends, Cyber Empowerment.*

## I. INTRODUCTION

The world at large is at transition from the traditional approach to the information technology approach and the technological innovations gaining its peak day by day. New opportunities for interaction and cooperation have emerged as a result of the rapid transformation in Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and the advancement of the digital landscape. In light of this tendency, educators must speed up to meet the learning needs of the next generation

---

<sup>1</sup> Author is a Research Scholar at ICFAI Law School, ICFAI University, India.

<sup>2</sup> Author is a Research Scholar at ICFAI Law School, ICFAI University, India.

of digital natives.<sup>3</sup> Some educators refer to themselves as digital immigrants rather than digital natives<sup>4</sup>. The same can be said for students. Traditional literacy evaluations have been modified in recent years as a result of digital technology, which have mostly resulted from socio-cultural processes<sup>5</sup>. Some educators refer to themselves as digital immigrants rather than digital natives<sup>6</sup>. The same can be said for students. Traditional literacy evaluations have been modified in recent years as a result of digital technology, which have mostly resulted from socio-cultural processes. In order to support digital transformation, digital literacy skills development and infrastructure development in higher education should be given equal weight. Setting up a suitable symposium on digital literacy will help to strengthen digital literacy, as would digital literacy training that is tailored to the needs of both learners and educators. There should be a consistent way of evaluating digital literacy that informs data collecting and analytics at the institutional level. It's a good idea to examine the digital divide and inequality and respond quickly with digital inclusion policies. Higher education institutions could develop relationships with mobile and technological companies to take advantage of ICTs while also providing free or reduced gadget. The government also has a significant role to play in creating a genuine atmosphere of digital equality.

#### **(A) Objective of Study:**

1. To understand the concept of Digital India
2. To know impact of digitization on Tribal Society.
3. To find out the challenges faced in the implementation of this project in Tribal Society of North east.
4. To suggest some remedial measures in the field of implementation of the digital India program.

## **II. CYBER INTRUSIONS DUE TO LACK OF CYBER LITERACY**

Traditional crimes have been supplanted by modern crimes, in which computers are utilized to attack and victimize ordinary people. In a nutshell, hackers are outpacing technology. Cybercrime against children is on the rise, and preventing it is a multibillion-dollar problem. With the explosive growth of online e-commerce, payment, social media, and gaming, as well as various tricks developed by technology giants for capturing data and maximizing market

---

<sup>3</sup> (Jarque et al., 2017).

<sup>4</sup> (Cindy, 2018)

<sup>5</sup> (Jarque et al., 2017).

<sup>6</sup> (Cindy, 2018)

share, fraud and cyber-crime saw an almost tenfold increase in millions of offences committed in comparison to the previous year, implying that one out of every ten adults fall victim. While increased smart phone usage provides opportunity for accessing useful learning material, a lack of digital literacy and online safety measures exposes youngsters to the risks of cyber-crime, according to a report by NCPCR. Fraud has already overtaken theft as the most common crime in the country, with people ten times more likely to fall victim to it. Unlike many traditional crimes, cybercrime victims come from all walks of life, all socioeconomic classes, and all parts of the country, making no one who uses a computer on a regular basis feel safe. Due to a variety of factors, including a lack of expertise among the cops who deal with such cases, cyber-crimes in India are not properly recorded.<sup>7</sup> According to UNICEF, school closures in 2020 will affect more than 1.5 billion children and young adults around the world, causing a variety of psychological and behavioral issues. Increased screen time has physical consequences for children, but it also raises the chance of online exploitation. The increased usage of virtual platforms could expose young children to hazardous virtual content, which could lead to cyber bullying.<sup>8</sup>

### III. CYBER ILLITERACY: GROWING CONCERN IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

In India, there is also a widening digital literacy divide between men and women. According to data from the NSSO's 75th round nationwide survey (2017-2018), there is a substantial difference in computer and internet skills between men and women in rural and urban areas. In comparison to their male counterparts, just 8.5% of women in rural India are able to utilize the internet,(17.1%). The percentage of users in metropolitan areas is substantially higher, although the gender difference persists. Similar outcomes can also be seen in micro-level research. In a survey conducted in Delhi's urban slums, Aggarwal discovered that 90% of men had mobile phones, with 59% having a smartphone and 58% having internet access. Women, on the other hand, had a phone in 58% of cases, with 22% having a smartphone and 18% having internet access. According to a research conducted in Aligarh, 52.25% of male respondents and 14.28% of female respondents possessed cellphones. Furthermore, none of the female respondents could download apps or were aware of the Google Play Store or any other app store. This digital literacy gap between men and women is a major structural impediment to the spread of

---

<sup>7</sup> VARINDIA Magazine. 2022. *Cyber crime is a growing challenge...lack of digital literacy measures exposes children*. [online] Available at: <<https://varindia.com/news/cyber-crime-is-a-growing-challengelack-of-digital-literacy-measures-exposes-children>> [Accessed 22 April 2022].

<sup>8</sup> Unicef.org. 2022. *Children at increased risk of harm online during global COVID-19 pandemic - UNICEF*. [online] Available at: <<https://www.unicef.org/romania/press-releases/children-increased-risk-harm-online-during-global-covid-19-pandemic-unicef>> [Accessed 22 April 2022].

digital learning methods, which has a number of negative consequences. For students with disabilities, online learning has also proven to be a significant barrier. According to a phone survey performed by the NGO Swabhiman in May 2020, 56.8% of 387 students with disabilities are completing their studies, with the rest preferring to drop out. Furthermore, only 56.4 % of those polled had access to personal or group-owned smartphones. Deaf students, in particular, struggled during webinars with many presenters and found it difficult to lip-read on screens in general, according to the poll. Only 4.4 percent of rural households and 23.4% of urban households own computers, according to NSSO data. Furthermore, although 42% of urban families have a computer with an internet connection, just 14.9% of rural homes have the same. According to a 2019 Nielson report, 70% of rural people do not have access to the internet, with states like West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, and Odisha having the lowest internet penetration. The report's findings show that consumers are less affluent and largely male, particularly in the northeastern states. Students in the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir have also found remote learning difficult.

#### **IV. DIGITAL DIVIDE: A SERIOUS MENACE**

According to various research (Lawrence and Lee, 1999; Leizero, 2000; Pastor et al, 2004; Norris, 2000; Sumanjeet, 2006), good governance is impossible without ICTs. Governments are increasingly relying on information and communication technologies to deliver services in areas that are convenient for citizens. It also improves the system's effectiveness, efficiency, and transparency. As a result, governments all around the world are working hard to develop ICT infrastructure. In the last decade or so, India has been one of the countries where telecommunication development has accelerated. Both governmental and non-governmental platforms have made efforts to improve the situation. The Digital Divide can be broadly classified into two categories:

- 1. Internet Divide:** In the early 1990s, India became the first country in the world to have access to the internet. On August 14, 1995, Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL) launches the Internet in India through dial-up in six cities. Only a few big cities had limited Internet connection at the time, and it was all controlled by the government. The DOT (Department of Telecommunications) and VSNL (the organization in charge of Internet activity) delivered agonizingly unreliable access, with meager capacity and far too few phone lines. Users were regularly cut off, with connection rates as low as 5% (for every 20 dialups, you might get connected once). And the fees for this pitiful level

of service were among the world's highest. Domestic customers paid roughly \$2 per hour, and lease lines cost about \$2 per month.

- 2. Mobile Divide:** Mobile phones have evolved from being a luxury item to a necessity. In the last five years, India has seen a massive increase in mobile phone usage, which has spread to many rural areas. Call rates have decreased and usefulness has grown thanks to CDMA11 (Code Division Multiple Access) entrants such as Reliance Communications and Tata Indi-com.

## **V. PATHETIC CONDITION OF CYBER LITERACY IN NORTH EAST INDIA: WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON SCHEDULE CASTE**

The Cyber illiteracy and the growing gap of Digital Divide in the north eastern states should be taken into account while determining the major concerns in the north eastern States. It is an undeniable fact that India lives in rural areas and not in the Urban areas, and the rural population does not have that capacity to adapt the growing technologies and advancements. On analyzing the situation in the north eastern states especially among the Schedule Tribe population that it is quite evident that the substantial population of the tribal community are excluded from the access of mobile phones, Internet, Cyber education etc owing to their poor economic condition, Social backwardness, educational backwardness etc. In its 75th report, 2017–18, the National Statistical Office, under the direction of the Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation (MOSPI), looked at the "% of homes having computer and internet facilities for different states." It was discovered that 23.8 percent of Indian homes had access to the internet, with rural-area internet availability at 14.9 percent and urban-area internet availability at 42 percent. The research also mentions the percentage of households with internet access per state, with Assam coming in at 17% (urban + rural). Surprisingly, the research makes no mention of the other northern states. This paints an alarming image of the present transfer of the classroom to an online method of education, as a result of the current Covid-19 scenario. The north-eastern region of India is spread across eight states, namely Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura. However, the literacy rate in the north-eastern region is among the highest in India, with Mizoram topping the list with 88.8% but unfortunately that figures does not remain the same in regard of cyber literacy.

## **VI. MAJOR CHALLENGES OF CYBER ILLITERACY IN NORTH-EAST**

- 1.** The most basic problem is that individuals and instructors in the north east must be willing to accept and manage internet access.

2. The next major challenge is to make use of the advantages of the internet – the long-awaited treasure that was gained after much effort.

3. The residents of the area must have a basic understanding of how to use and abuse the facility that has been provided to them.

4. Any geographical impediment must be overcome quickly before things spiral out of control.

5. For forthcoming internet users, skill building exercises must begin well ahead of time.

6. The general public must be educated on what they should and should not do when using the internet.

## **VII. CYBER INTRUSIONS IN NORTH EAST DUE TO CROSS BORDER CULTURE: WITH REFERENCE TO CYBER ILLITERACY**

In total 2139 cyber-crime cases were registered in North East India. Comparing North East Indian states very high numbers of cyber-crime cases were registered in Assam. There has been a phenomenal rise to 1771 cases in 2011 to 2016 followed by Meghalaya with 182 cases. Mukesh Sahay, Assam additional Director General of Police (CID) said greater Internet penetration was one of the reasons for the increase in cyber-crimes in the state, “with the rising popularity of social networking sites, there has also been an increase in the cases of defamation on those sites,” “Some people also misuse the Internet and social media for rumour mongering, which had led to thousands of people from the Northeast fleeing Bangalore in 2012” (Sarma, 2014). In Mizoram and Manipur less than 40 cases were registered and no cases were registered up to 2013 in Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura and in 2014 to 2016 less than 10 got registered. Another aspect of it is the sharing of borders of Tripura with that of Bangladesh due to which there is a proneness of the commission of cyber-crime in the territory of Tripura with that of the growing cyber intrusions. The militants also exploit the gap of cyber literacy in order to facilitate their malafide and vicious purpose.<sup>9</sup>

## **VIII. CONCLUSION**

Technology and the internet are forming a global network that allows people to obtain information in any field with a simple click. This provides incredible public accessibility and has evolved into a form of communication for netizens, including data storage, intra- and inter-organizational emails, and the maintenance and transmission of social websites and networks. According to Internet World Statistics (2010), 444.8 percent of people use the internet. When

---

<sup>9</sup> Padmavaty, R.D., *Cyber Crime in India: A trend specific analysis to North East India*, AIIRJ

the internet is used excessively, it can deliver many benefits while also posing a number of risks. Parents, schools, and policymakers must work together to educate children about the risks of the internet and to take the necessary precautions to protect internet users from becoming victims.

The government's governing bodies and universities to sit down and come up with strategies for preparing the region for the best to come. It is often claimed that you must save yourself in order to have the time of your life. It should not be the case that you are so dissatisfied with your life that when the best time comes, you are unable to fully appreciate it. The best option is aerial internet connectivity, which would permanently eliminate the problem of the region being cut off.

\*\*\*\*\*

**IX. REFERENCES:**

1. (Jarque et al., 2017).
2. (Cindy, 2018)
3. <https://varindia.com/news/cyber-crime-is-a-growing-challengelack-of-digital-literacy-measures-exposes-children>
4. <https://www.unicef.org/romania/press-releases/children-increased-risk-harm-online-during-global-covid-19-pandemic-unicef>
5. [http://mospi.gov.in/sites/default/files/publication\\_reports/KI\\_Education\\_75th\\_Final.pdf](http://mospi.gov.in/sites/default/files/publication_reports/KI_Education_75th_Final.pdf)
6. <https://www.socialworkfootprints.org/english-articles/digital-literacy-among-rural-youths-at-jarauthi-village-aligarh-status-and-intervention>
7. [https://57e7b526-0150-4fbc-b3e50f9fa1536427.filesusr.com/ugd/50c137\\_22cf48729fb0413b858bf7aec73934b0.pdf](https://57e7b526-0150-4fbc-b3e50f9fa1536427.filesusr.com/ugd/50c137_22cf48729fb0413b858bf7aec73934b0.pdf)
8. [http://mospi.gov.in/sites/default/files/publication\\_reports/KI\\_Education\\_75th\\_Final.pdf](http://mospi.gov.in/sites/default/files/publication_reports/KI_Education_75th_Final.pdf)
9. Padmavaty , R.D , Cyber Crime in India: A trend specific analysis to North East India , AIIRJ <https://cms.iamai.in/Content/ResearchPapers/d3654bcc-002f-4fc7-ab39-e1fbeb00005d.pdf>.

\*\*\*\*\*