

Cyber Security Honours : Need of Cyber Laws

Name : Ritesh Jha

Class : SY_IT (B3)

Roll No : 16010423076



Introduction to Cyber Law -

Cyber law, also known as information technology law, is a body of law that prescribes rules and regulations regarding legal issues produced by the use of digital information and communication technologies. As more and more users started accessing the internet and began with digital communication, the need was felt to have some regulations to control these new forms of interaction and transaction. In order to give legal recognition to electronic records and electronic transactions and ensure that they are properly authorized and legally valid, cyber law gained prominence.

The Genesis of Cyber Law -

With the proliferation of cross-border communication and e-commerce, it felt that a regime of law had to be put in place on account of the complexities of digital relationships. The purpose of cyber law is to regulate electronic communication and exchanges in such a way that they conform to standards of law. This requirement was felt by governments of the world and legal professionals all around to introduce dedicated legislation governing the cyberspace.

The IT Act 2000 -

In this background, the need was felt to essentially bring in legislation to address such requirements in India, thereby ushering in the Information Technology Act, 2000. Commonly referred to as the IT Act 2000 and having received the assent of the President of India on October 17, 2000, the IT Act accorded legal recognition to electronic transactions, digital signatures, and electronic records. The primary aim of this Act was to bring internet technology under the canopy of law and to address issues related to cybercrime.

IT Act aimed at bringing into existence a law which would be capable of recognizing and regulating electronic communication to provide a legal conduit for online transactions and digital contracts. The other declared objective also aimed at providing remedies against data breaches, cyber fraud, and unauthorized access to digital systems.

The challenge before the Cyber Law -

One of the big challenges with cyber law is how to address cybercrime. Unlike traditional crimes, it occurs in a digitally existing space, which is not owned physically and cannot be traced. The anonymity of the internet complicates identification

and prosecution. That is where traditional investigative methods are usually impractical to apply to deal with cybercrime.

Evolution of Cyber Law -

With the ever-evolving face of technology, the cyber threats also evolve. Thus, IT Act 2008 brought in a number of changes to meet the requirement of the emerging issues. The amendment included the provision for digital signature, cyber terrorism and more effective action against cybercrime. It also recognized new words and their meaning with practice and introduced regulatory authorities to ensure the level of compliance and enforcement.

Key Provisions of the IT Act 2000 and 2008 -

Section 65: Relates to tampering with computer source documents.

Section 66: It deals with hacking, unauthorized access, and damage to the computer system.

Section 66A: Sending offensive messages by means of electronic communication.

Section 66C: It deals with identity theft and impersonation.

Section 66E: Publishes private images of a person without his consent.

Section 67: Publishes obscene material in an electronic form.

New definitions were included, such as digital signatures and cybersecurity measures, since both technologies were developing fast, along with cyber threats. Current and Future Directions Cyber law has kept its dynamic tendency of change, new developments in technology, and the related newer kind of threats that are coming up. Governments and lawyers are trying to fill up the gaps in the existing laws and develop new ones so that security and integrity are maintained regarding all digital transactions and communications. Conclusion

Conclusion -

Cyber law is something that is absolutely needed, considering the complications present in digital interactions and transactions. While technology gets better and better, laws must also be doctored to meet the changing times to face new challenges and to keep the digital domain secure and lawful.