

# **Introduction to Cyber Law**

## **Why is Cyber Law needed?**

There are various reasons which are extremely difficult for conventional law to cope with cyberspace that's why cyber law is needed. Some of these are discussed below:

- ☐ Cyberspace is an intangible dimension that is impossible to govern and regulate using conventional law.
- ☐ Cyberworld has complete disrespect for jurisdictional boundaries. A person in Bangladesh could break into a bank's electronic vault hosted on a computer in the USA and transfer millions of Takas to another bank in Switzerland, all within minutes. All he/she would need is a laptop/computer or a cell phone.
- ☐ Virtual world handles gigantic traffic volumes every second. Billions of emails are crisscrossing the globe even as we read this, millions of websites are being accessed every minute and billions of dollars are electronically transferred around the world by banks every day.
- ☐ The online community is open to all participants. A ten-year-old boy in Bhutan can have a live chat session with an eight-year-old girl in Bali without any regard for the distance or the anonymity between them.
- ☐ Global village offers enormous potential for anonymity to its members. Readily available encryption software can seamlessly hide information within image and sound files to ensure the confidentiality of information exchanged between cyber-citizens.
- ☐ Electronic information has become the main object of cyber-crime. It is characterized by extreme mobility, which exceeds by far the mobility of persons, goods or other services. International computer networks can transfer huge amounts of data around the globe in a matter of seconds.
- ☐ A software source code worth crore of takas or a movie can be pirated across the globe within hours of their release.

## What is Cyberspace?

The term *cyberspace* was first used by the American-Canadian author William Gibson in 1982 in a story published in Omni magazine and then 1984 in his book Neuromancer. In this science-fiction novel, Gibson described *cyberspace as the creation of a computer network* in a world filled with artificially intelligent beings.

*Cyberspace* supposedly a “virtual” world created by links between computers, Internet-enabled devices, servers, routers, and other components of the Internet’s infrastructure.

According to *Cambridge Dictionary*,

*Cyberspace* means the notional environmental in which communication over computer networks occurs.

According to *Chip Morningstar and F. Randall Farmer*,

*Cyberspace* is defined more by the social interactions involved rather than its technical implementation. In their view, the computational medium in cyberspace is an augmentation of the communication channel between real people; the core characteristic of cyberspace is that it offers an environment that consists of many participants with the ability to affect and influence each other.

## What is Cyber Law?

*Cyber law* means *such law which prescribed the rules and regulations to protect the Internet and other online communication technologies*. It is the part of such legal system that deals with the Internet, cyberspace and their respective legal issues.

Cyber Law deals with the legal issues of the internet usage and all devices connected over the network, their proper use in order to prevent and control cyber-crimes.

According to *Cambridge Dictionary*,

*Cyber Law* is such a branch of law which prescribed the rules about how people should use computers, especially the internet.

According to *Black's Law Dictionary*,

*Cyber law* is such an evolving area of law that is applies to computers and the various activities over the internet and networks.”

## Cyber Laws in Bangladesh

There are two Acts in Bangladesh for cyber-crimes. They are:

- Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Act 2006 on 8 October 2006
- Digital Security Act 2018 on 8 October 2018

## Importance of Cyber Law

- + Cyber law controls the misuse of technologies and cyber-crime.
- + To protect nations and bring criminals within the jurisdiction of law, an effective cyber law can play a vital role.
- + It helps to protect against computer fraud and unauthorized access over any computer network.
- + Companies now can carry out electronic commerce using the legal infrastructure provided by the Cyber laws.
- + Cyber law ensures the security of the mass people who uses the internet to their day-to-day life.
- + It somehow guaranteed the safety of electronic transactions and communications over the internet.
- + It gives proper redress to the victims of cyber-crime.
- + It also protects individuals from getting trapped in any cyber violations.
- + It controls the high rate of pornography, hacking, and cyber-terrorism.
- + It also controls the defamatory, obnoxious publications in online social media.