The annual forum was organized remotely with 200+ youth joining us.

About the fellowship

Timeline of Fellowship

- 4th-5th December, 2021: 4th Edition of Youth Internet Governance Forum India
- 19th December, 2021: Multi-stakeholder roleplay and interactive sessions including post-YIGF IG engagement plans
- 21st December, 2021: Submission of the recommendations from the stakeholder groups
- 23rd December, 2021: Submission of the rapporteuring documents
- 30th December, 2021: Fellowship requirements wrap-up
- 16th January, 2022: Fellows and OC meet-up

Timing (IST)	Session Title	Speaker	Session Description
9:15-10:30	Multi Stakeholder Role Play on Data Protection in India: Challenges and Way Forward	Introduction to stakeholder consultation by Antaraa Vasudev (Founder, Civis Mumbai) Stakeholder roleplay: OC Members and Fellows	Understanding how the multistakeholder model of decision making works? What are the challenges when trying to achieve consensus?
10:30-10:45	Break	Break	Break
10:45-11:15	Understanding ICANN: How can we contribute?	Samiran Gupta (Head of India, ICANN)	Understanding what ICANN does and committees/areas/topics that you can contribute too. The session will also mention learning and mentorship opportunities at ICANN.
11:15-11:45	Career Talks and Opportunities in	Swati Punia (Senior	Understanding the tech-policy

	Tech-Law domain	Programme Officer - Centre for Communication Governance, NLU-D)	landscape, the opportunities and how one can build their skill sets.
11:45-12:15	Contributing to technologies, frameworks and standards: Is it all technical?	Satish Babu (Chair, ICANN APRALO & Chair, APSIG)	Session will focus on IETF and IEEE and how one can contribute to these organizations
12:15-12:45	Engaging with Internet Society	Rajnesh Singh (Regional Vice President, Asia-Pacific at Internet Society)	What does ISOC do? What are their initiatives? How can you contribute to ISOC? Are there any mentorship programs?
12:45-13:15	Lightning Talks!	1. Pratik Ghumade (Youth IGF India 2019 Fellow) 2. Brinda Dash(Youth IGF India 2020 Fellow) 3. Purnima Tiwari (IGF Youth Ambassador 2021) 4. Ihita.G (ITU GCVB, Youth Summit)	Experience sharing by speakers including fellowship alumni with discussion on a few upcoming opportunities to learn and contribute more
13:15-13:30	Fellowship Closing	OC Youth IGF India 2021	Discussion around effective post Youth IGF India engagement plans with announcements

Selected fellows

- Aiman Hashmi
- Jumanah Kader
- Deborsi Basu

- Shrey Madaan
- Nitya Nand Jha
- Rijul Arora
- Sharanya Mukharjee
- Ayush Keshri
- Veena Nama
- Devain Pal Bansal
- Sricheta Parui
- Pranay Das
- Fakruddin Hararwalla
- Annabelle D'Costa
- Sakshi Mehta
- Dheeraj Mathur

Annual Forum: Session reports

Dec 4, 2021

Session Name: Welcome Note

Session Time- 09:45- 10:00 IST
Rapporteur Name- Pranay Das

The event was inaugurated with a welcoming address to the fellows and participants by the co-founder of the Youth Internet Governance Forum, India, Ihita Gangavarapu. The speaker shared the history, aim and objectives of the Youth Internet Governance Forum, India. In 2020, YIGF collaborated with YIGF Ghana on Youth Advocacy weekend. The youths from both countries joined the forum. It focused on the effective contribution to internet governance and effective advocacy. Youth IGF India, 2021 cohort was hosted by the Internet Society Chennai Chapter. The theme for this year was the internet for all. It was quite an extensive topic, and under this, there sub-themes internet governance, The internet as a fundamental right, Emerging technology and challenges, Trust, safety and security. Dr Sudha Bhuvaneswary Narayanaswamy,

president of Internet Society Chennai, delivered the introductory keynote speech. The speaker gave a brief introduction to the two days event.

Session Name, Format: Looking Back at 2021- Interactive Classroom
Session Time 2:00-2:15
Rapporteur Name Aiman Hashmi

The session highlighted that there has been a marked increase in regulation and more frequently complete restriction of internet activities in India. The statistic of concern was that 60,000 Content takedown orders were issued in 2021 alone. A much higher number than one would expect. Internet Shutdowns in Haryana, Delhi and other areas for public emergency/public interest. Public emergency has been used for a variety of circumstances, but the focal concern is the increased acceptance of the method of 'shutdown' for dealing with a variety of occurrences. Disconcertedly, an 11% increase in cybercrime was noted. The Indian Govt has focused on Cybercrime Volunteering, an initiative that could potentially harness public participation in favour of ensuring internet safety. Technology-enabled gender-based violence was another highlight of concern. In terms of legislative changes, the Intermediaries guidelines came into force.

An abysmal performance was noted in terms of inclusivity in the internet space for Indians. The Internet inclusive Index, created by the Economist Intelligence Unit, ranked India at 4949. Correspondingly, the rank for 'Ability' is at 77th place, and 'Affordability' at 20th place. Restricted internet access. Other statistics of relevance were that there currently are 25mln active users in India. A steep growth (2.8%). Altogether, the dependence on internet as a human resource has only seen an uptick.

A disproportionately negative control over the internet activities of Indian users has been noted. Even though government initiatives have been undertaken, they have either relied upon public participation or regulatory choke-holding. It would be beneficial to take a more holistic approach to ensure that the focus remains on the right to access and safe spaces. A more proactive function is required.

The Global rankings on inclusivity parameters are not as optimistic as one would hope for. A clear need is highlighted to overhaul the manner in which access to the internet is viewed in India. Even though the number of active users in India has increased, there has also been a corresponding increase in cybercrime and gender-based internet violence. These clearly act as a deterrent to the equal enjoyment of the internet. Programmes, legislative tools which focus on ensuring equal access and safety of gendered and other marginalized identities are necessary. More transparency is also necessary when it comes to incidences of internet shutdowns, which may happen disproportionately.

Dec 5, 2021

The session aimed to delve into rich history and basics of operation of one of the most important inventions of humankind. The session started with the greetings of the moderator and then he introduced the panelists. The discussion started with the opening remarks by the moderator about the significance of the internet. Panelist Shradha highlighted the importance of the internet and its origins. She discussed its humble beginnings. She explained how the internet was initially meant for defense and how ARPANET developed the development of TCP IP protocol. The panelist further explained the integration of the internet in every aspect of society and how our appliances are interconnected. She further emphasized on 3 types of network i.e mobile network, satellite network and copper/fiber network which referred to as 3 cores which forms the back of the internet. Discussing the key internet technologies, explained internet protocol, routing and domain names. Paneslist expounded on internet protocol and defined it as a known set of rules and standards designed by Bob Kahn and Vint Cerf. According to panelists data is sent over the internet on discrete packets from source to destination and every source and destination must have a valid IP address. She further distinguished between IPv4 and IPv6. Panelists Srinivas (Sunny) Chendi discussed the Autonomous System Numbers and distinguished between 2 Byte ASN and 4 Byte ASN. He further delved into more technical aspects of ASN and its role in working on the internet by driving the analogy of PINCODE. Panelist Shradha explained the process of IP address formation and its governing body by stating the example of legislature and law making. Further she discussed the different regional registries of the internet such as APNIC and its structure. Proceeding further she discussed the APNIC policy development process and called it a bottoms up process, where policies are reviewed at grass root level and then modified by higher authorities. Panelist Srinivas Chendi elucidated on the process of Routing and how transfer of 'packets' is performed via routers. He further shed light on the role of ASN in Routing and how Routing packets utilize Big Getaway Protocol. He also discussed Internet Exchange points, RKPI and HTTPs and their role in functioning of the internet. He also illustrated Domain Names and their significance in standardization of the internet.

The moderator presented questions put up by the participants on data privacy, internet governance which were not answered due to questions lacking clarity. Moderator then proceeded to question asymmetric encryption in dnssec to which panelist Srinivas responded. Another participant asked a question on censorship and restricted use of the internet comparing Hong Kong with mainland China and asked if

something can be used to strengthen cyber security in India without infringing freedom. He responded that since it's a state that controls everything, the information is channeled to one DNS server which is called the FIREWALL of CHINA. The mockery of prominent news websites is common practice in china. The news is filtered strictly before being published. Panelists also discussed the board game format used to explain internet working known as IP Go game. Panelist Shraddha emphasized on youth engagement in the field of internet governance.

Key Takeaways

- It is crucial to understand the concept of the internet and its working to further understand internet governance.
- Internet has 3 types of networks
- ASN is the PINCODE of the internet address
- DNS are critical in standardizing internet
- Youth engagement is needed to strengthen the APNIC PDP structure.

Session Name: Internet Governance 101

Session Time: 1 pm

Rapporteur Name: Shrey Madaan

The session aimed to delve into fundamentals of internet governance and global I.G ecosystem. The session started with the greetings of the moderator and then she introduced the panelists. Explained about the mentee mentor session and mentimeter platform. The discussion started with the opening remarks by the moderator about the significance of internet governance. Panelist Amrita pondered upon the future form of internet and questioned participants about the meaning of internet governance and invited them to add their points on mentimeter. The panelist Anupam after analyzing answers of participants highlighted the use of word RULES and importance as core of discussion. Tracing its history in 1970's panelist discussed how the internet was managed by various individuals and what led to the formation of IETF in 1986. He also discussed the visionary John Perry Parlo who declared the internet is extra national and should not be controlled by one entity. He also talked about the developments that shaped the internet governance structure and world summit of 2000 which led to the formation of ICANN in 2003, he also discussed the working group on internet governance of 2003 where the need to have control mechanisms and better involvement of governments was felt. The definition proposed by the working group was adopted by U.N in 2003. Panelist Amrita elucidated on the need of internet governance in the realm of business and e-commerce and discussed the formation of IGF internet governance forum, which was the outcome of the world business summit. Panelist Anupam commented on recent trends and changing dynamics of internet

governance in the national and international arena. He highlighted the present focus of the Indian Government on DNS, hinting shift in focus of the government towards the technical side of the internet with greater emphasis on digitization of rural areas and active youth engagement. Panelist Amrita further discussed the Data Protection Bill and its various angles through which it is being analyzed such as competition laws, blockchain, digital rights, fake news and technical facets. She further elucidated on the need of mutual trust and capacity building on the internet and emphasized on finding effective solutions to mitigate the issues such as surveillance, data privacy and internet crimes without internet shutdowns. She also called for trusted internet services and vigilance. Panelist Amrita further asked the question on the role of lawyers in IG discussions. She further elucidated on answers given by participants like policy legislation, bridging the gap etc, and proceeded to the next question. She further asked about the role of technical communities in IG discussion. She filtered out the points put forth by participants and highlighted a few of them such as protection from hackers, exploring vulnerabilities and tech awareness.

She also asked about the role of youth in the IG discussion. Moderator answering the question mentioned about the fellowships and track to engage. She further emphasized on the greater influence of youth on the internet and its governance and also discussed the challenges faced and skill sets needed to excel in the field of internet and policy. She also raised her concern on lack of proper skill sets required to navigate on the internet safely rendering youth vulnerable to attacks and non awareness of digital rights. She called for greater youth engagement and better capacity building initiatives to enable young people hone their skills and surf the internet safely.

Panelists also discussed the specific interests of stakeholders involved and how consensus cannot be achieved due to conflict of interest. Participant further added her opinion on the role of youth in IG discussion and highlighted the use of social media and called for strict laws to prevent free flow of private information on the internet especially social media. Panelists opened the floor for questions and entertained a few questions. Participants asked how much internet governance is an international issue. Panelist Amrita answered the question and highlighted old issues in new manifestations and transgression of these issues in the digital realm. Another participant questioned the possibility of strengthening online education infrastructure instead of opening institutions physically which leads to mutations and new waves. Panelist Amrita highlighted the lack of proper facilities in rural areas which makes the online education mode unfeasible for children. She also emphasized on interpersonal skills which can be gained from physical interaction. Panelists highlighted the integration of the public and private sector to strengthen cyber critical infrastructure and called for amendments in the I.T act. Policy discussion should be emphasized

Key Takeaways:

1. I.G should be analyzed from multiple angles
2. Stakeholders needs to work together to strengthen cyber infrastructure
3. IT Act needs to amended and updated
4. Online Education Structure needs to strengthen however interpersonal skills can be developed only through physical interactions.
5. More focus on the technical side of I.G is needed.

Session Name, Format- Surveillance and Right to Privacy, Interactive Classroom Session

Session Time- 15:00-15:30 IST

Rapporteur Name- Pranay Das

This session was divided into two parts i) Right to Privacy and ii) Surveillance. The speaker focused on surveillance and the Right to Privacy in India. The speaker started with the most relevant question: what is the Right to Privacy? Do we have the Right to Privacy in India? Before answering those questions, the speaker tried to shed light on the myths around Privacy. The speaker mentioned that it was essential to understand that Privacy and secrecy were two different things. It is not equal. In India, people have a societal belief that people want Privacy to hide something. The moment this word comes into the discussion, it is believed that the person has done something wrong. That is why people want to hide that and seek Privacy. People cherish Privacy and private spaces to do things and be as they are. In that space, people can be free from others' gazes. The speaker also pointed out the nothing to hide argument. It makes an incorrect moral judgment. People wrongfully connect Privacy with secrecy. Privacy is exercising choice to withhold information when it is not essential for others to know. On the other hand, secrecy is about withholding information where people may have a right to know. Everyone has the 'Right to Privacy' if they have not committed any crime.

The speaker also highlighted specific underprivileged communities' problems. They are targeted because of their identity on the internet. They especially need the Right to Privacy to share their ideas. Right to Privacy is the right to be let alone or free from intrusion and the right to choose the extent of information to share about oneself and, most importantly, how to share it and with whom to share it.

The right to Privacy was not in the constitution when it was drafted. The supreme court of India

mentioned in the judgement of K.S.Putuswamy (Retd. IAS) vs Union of India (2017) that Right to Privacy flows from Article 21 of Right to Life and Liberty of the Indian Constitution. In this judgement, the court explained it in a nuanced way. This right is not absolute, and the state can intervene in the Right to Privacy, and the state should fulfil certain thresholds. There are four thresholds i) Legality (Whenever state intervenes in the Right to Privacy, that should be done within the defined regime of law. If there is no law, the state cannot do so), ii) Necessity (there should be specific aim to intrude, if the government fails to state their objective it will invalid) iii) Proportionality (Government must show the rational nexus between the objective and what the government is doing. If there is another method to fulfil this and less intrusive, they have to take state steps), and iv) Procedural Safeguards (there should be appropriate independent institutional mechanisms in place. It should act as procedural safeguards by following SoP established by law). India does not have any specific provision related to the right to Privacy except the Personal Data Protection (PDP) Bill of 2019 in Parliament.

Surveillance

Somebody or an authority continuously monitors a person or a group of community for gathering information on them and gathering their activities. It is of two types- mass surveillance and targeted surveillance. CCTVs are defined as mass surveillance. The problem with this is facial recognition technology, as almost all the police departments have this. Pegasus spyware and Wiretapping of Phones are under targeted surveillance. India does not have any specific laws related to mass surveillance. There is a legal vacuum. However, there are provisions related to targeted surveillance. These are the Information Technology Act of 2000 in conjunction with IT rules and the Indian Telegraph Act of 1885. Section 69 of the IT Act allows the government or government officials to intercept under certain circumstances. Under this government can do targeted surveillance. Section 5 of the Indian Telegraph Act enables the government to tap calls. Hacking is illegal in India under the IT Act except by the government. The laws are archaic and cannot keep up with the latest developments.

Problems

Lack of oversight as everything happens at the executive level. Judicial and parliamentary oversight is absent. It impacts the freedom of speech. It needs to be authorised by the court. It is

missing to seek redressal mechanisms for the surveilled person as it takes place secretly. The PDP Bill under section 35 exempts particular government agencies from this bill as there will be no procedural safeguards.

Key takeaways

1. Privacy is not equal to secrecy.
2. Surveillance reform is the need of the hour.
3. There should be judicial oversight for the surveillance done by the executives.
4. Create a law for mass surveillance.
5. Grievance redressal mechanism.

Session Name, Format- Psychologically Hacked, Interactive Classroom
Session Time- 15:45-16:15 IST
Rapporteur Name- Pranay Das

Ananya Choudhury was the speaker of this session, and she focused on the various aspects of the internet and its relation with human psychology, especially on youth. The speaker mentioned the democratic nature of the internet but also stressed the issue of utilisation. It also included addiction, mood swings, fear of missing out. This discussion had included pressing issues around the usage of the internet. The speaker also included three A related to the internet. These are availability, accessibility and anonymity. The internet provides many choices to its users, and people continuously consume them. People hardly wait for anything as things are easily accessible. Internet keeps oneself hooked as the content is very intoxicating.

Participants also asked the speaker about internet addiction and mental health. The speaker mentioned that spending more time online affects memory, decision-making capacity. The speaker further elaborated on cognitive behaviour, sleep and mood swings. The internet makes one detached from the real world. Internet addiction among children and adolescents affects brain development. A child should be exposed to the internet at the early stages of life, significantly below two years. It impacts their social learning. To control children's internet or mobile addiction, the parents should delay the start of internet usage. Parents should regulate the use of

the internet of their kids. Parents should include other skill-building stuff. During the pandemic, most of the works shifted online. People had to spend most of their time online. The speaker stressed the fact that it was important for professionals. However, they must take some time out for activities, exercise, socialising and leisure activities. This advice applies to the students as well. However, the internet should not be used during break time, or it should not be used as a break. Internet should not be the coping mechanism for everything. The internet also creates a generational gap, so people should spend much time with their families. During meal times, people should not use the internet. There should be an optimal use of the internet. One should not spend more than 45 minutes on social media. There is no time frame that can be considered as an addiction to the internet.

 The speaker also discussed cyberbullying and its nature. There are certain elements. It includes a primary person who bullies the victim; some observers observe the entire event, and the second person continues it. It happens because of anonymity and repercussions. Some people fuel such incidents. In hate speeches, things turn from what is right to who is right. Sometimes, it creates unrealistic expectations among the people.

Key Takeaways

1. Availability, Accessibility and Anonymity.

2. Internet content is toxic, which keeps a person hooked on the internet.

3. It affects the overall development of children and adolescents.

4. There should be an optimal use of the internet and social media. It is not easy to do things without the internet, but it should be regulated.

5. The internet creates unrealistic expectations in people's life. One should differentiate between real life and online life.