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Securing India

Special Report on eBihar and eJharkhand



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IT for Security

SecureIT 2014, in its fifth year, was held at Hotel Claridges, New Delhi on 14th March 2014. The event saw a gathering of security experts from the Government, Security Agencies, Corporates who deliberated on the various aspects of Cyber Security and Physical Security which are prevailing in the country and ways and means to counter them. A report...



(L-R) Dr Ravi Gupta, CEO, Elets Technomedia Pvt Ltd; Dr Ashwini Kumar Sharma, Managing Director, National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT); Prakash Kumar, National Technology Officer, Microsoft India; Rajesh Aggarwal, Principal Secretary (IT), Government of Maharashtra; Dr Nirmaljeet Singh Kalsi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India; Arun Chaudhary, Director General, Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB); Dr Shefali Dash, Director General, National Informatics Centre (NIC); Dr M P Narayanan, President, Elets Technomedia Pvt Ltd launching inaugural issue of ICE Connect magazine at SecureIT 2014



Dr Shefali Dash, Director General, National Informatics Centre (NIC)

I would like to focus upon the need and challenges for cyber security. In the present times, we can see that cyber attackers are trying to break the defense and security system of a country by the way of cyber attacks, apart from general way of forces attacking a country with army or forces.

We all realize that nearly every aspect of citizens' daily life has been considerably transformed by the Information Revolution. So, a trusted and resilient digital infrastructure that can withstand attacks would provide a platform for innovation and prosperity, the benefits of which could be reaped by the common man at the grass root level. I think that due diligence to be done to address safety in the cyber space, including both proactive and reactive.

NIC has undertaken various measures to tackle cyber crime. Forming dedicated cyber security group as part of its common ICT infrastructure for e-Governance. Making dedicated and experienced team of cyber security professionals covering the areas of network security, application security, malware analysis and other emerging areas. Application Firewalls provide extra layer of security against application level attacks. Security Information and event management systems to collect, analyze, correlate security events to identify intrusion attempts in real-time. 24x7 Security Operations Centre to monitor & remediate attack attempts are some of the measures being undertaken by NIC.

Rajesh Aggarwal, Principal Secretary (Information Technology), Government of Maharashtra

At the onset, I would like to make it clear that we have to first learn to stress upon quality in this country. Unless we have quality, we can't have security. It may be harsh to say, but the fact of the matter is that our country glorifies 'jugaad' system, rather than glorifying quality. My crisp message is that we should focus on quality first or otherwise we should stop talking about security. Let me give an example. All our banks are computerized. Have we ever thought that who actually stores the passwords of the servers? These are saved with the vendors, not with the bank managers. Yes, this is the reality. Still we talk about security in information technology system. My opinion is that we should first focus on enforcing quality everywhere. Our system must have SOPs for passwords and these should be enforced strictly.

