Cyber Safety and Security: Policy Perspectives, Need and Scope





NEP 2002 emphasizes that 'Children and adolescents enrolled in schools must not be forgotten in this whole process; after all, the school system is designed for them. Careful attention must be paid to their safety and rights' (Para 8.11).

## XVigil data shows that ~5% of threats identified in 2021 targeted educational institutions. This can be attributed to:







Adoption of remote learning by schools, universities, and related entities, to combat the disruptions caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Large-scale digitization of educational material, student data and documents, and administrative activities.

Online learning platforms catering to the needs of everybody, ranging from preschool children to retired professionals.

Source: Report on Cyber Threats Targeting the Global Education Sector on the Rise

#### THE TIMES OF INDIA

# Indian education sector biggest target of cyber threats, remote learning among key triggers: Report

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NEW DELHI: India is the biggest target of cyber threats to educational institutions and online platforms followed by the USA the UK, Indonesia and Brazil, according to a report.

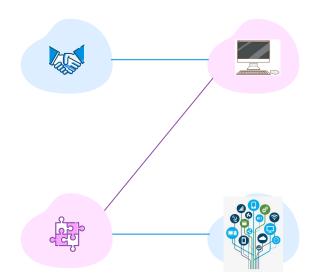
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The report also says that the adoption of remote learning during the Covid-19 pandemic, digitisation of education, and prevalence of online learning platforms are key triggers that enlarged the attack surface.

The report, titled "Cyber Threats Targeting the Global Education Sector", also claimed that data shows a 20 per cent increase in cyber threats to the global education sector in the first three months of 2022 when compared to the corresponding period of 2021.

#### Why in Educational Institutions?

Play a key role in promoting internet safety

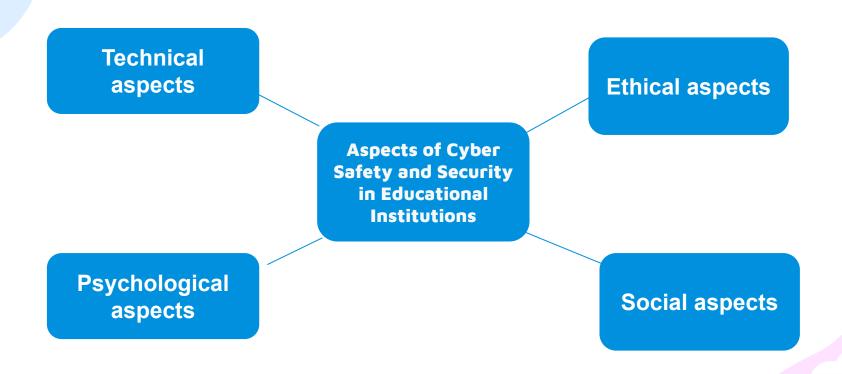


Primarily responsible for keeping systems/ computers/ network devices secure and functional

Has significant
Databases with
Personally Identifiable
Information (PII), of
students and their
families.

To address acceptable use of technology, data privacy, online behavior, and consequences for violations

### Various Aspects of Cyber Safety and Security in Educational Institutions





In the realm of education, cyber safety is not an add-on but an integral part of providing a holistic and secure learning environment that prepares students for the challenges of the digital age."





#### Major Highlights of Cyber attacks in Education Sector



#### **Top 5 Targeted Countries**

India 28%
 USA 11.3%
 UK 5.4%
 Indonesia 4.2%
 Brazil 3%



#### Major Institutes Targeted

- · Byju's
- Howard University
- Coursera
- Dallas ISD
- Stanford University
- University of California



#### Common Attack Vectors

- Ransomware
- · Vulnerability & Exploits
- Business Email Compromise (BEC)
- DDoS
- Spear Phishing

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#### **Major Concern Areas**



01

#### **Protection of Students**

online threats such as cyberbullying, harassment, inappropriate content, identity theft, and online predators

03

#### **Protection of School Resources**

Schools' digital infrastructure, needs to be protected from cyber threats such as malware, viruses, and hacking attempts. 02

#### **Privacy and Data Protection**

Schools handle a significant amount of sensitive student data, including personal information and academic records

04
Legal and Regulatory
Compliance

By prioritizing cyber safety, schools can meet legal requirements and uphold ethical standards



05

06

#### Prevention of Cyberbullying

By implementing cyber safety measures, schools can create a safe and inclusive online environment that actively combats cyberbullying, promotes empathy, and encourages positive online interactions.

#### Online Reputation Management

Educating students about managing their online reputation helps them understand the importance of maintaining a positive digital presence and managing Digital Footprint.

#### Major Issues / Challenges faced in field

- Cyberbullying and Online Harassment
- Student Privacy Concerns
- Digital Footprint Management
- Technological Advancements and Emerging Threats
- Phishing and Online Scams

#### Capacity Building on Cyber Safety and Security

