SUMMARY

Regulation Of Cyber Space: A Socio-Legal Study With Special Reference To Cyber Law In India

Background:
Cyberspace has become an integral part of people’s everyday lives. It has become the new tool for achieving economic and social development. Unregulated cyber space is a major threat to our economy. Existing control of cyber space does not sufficiently respond to the needs of society, legal professionals, and the nation at large. Therefore the present work was conducted to examine the nature and scope of social, architectural and legal regulation of cyber space and identify their strengths, weaknesses, and areas in need of reform.

Materials and Methods: The present research work involved both theoretical and empirical study. A comprehensive literature search relating to cyber regulation was carried out. The empirical work conducted among law students comprised of the questionnaires, data collection in order to bring out the actual factors and forces regulating cyber space and to identify their strengths, weaknesses, and areas in need of reform. The data obtained from 250 law students who gave consent and filled out the questionnaire was included in the final analysis. The data so obtained was analyzed by SPSS.

Observation and Results:
Using literature survey various advantages as well as disadvantages of different modes of regulation of cyberspace such architectural control, social, legal
control etc. were analysed. Empirical study further helped to delineate both the positive as well as negative impacts of such regulation. 57% of the respondents (strongly) agreed that cyberspace can be regulated using architectural control, such as encryption and cryptography, filtering techniques, etc. Only 40.8% of the respondents (strongly) agreed that Cyberspace can be self-regulated by the social norms of customs, etc. whatever community one chooses to associate. 79.6% of the respondents (strongly) agreed that Cyberspace can be regulated using legal controls such as rules, regulations, acts, statutes, etc. About 64.4% of respondents were of the view that the IT Act, 2000 has established legal certainty, legal axis for cyberspace users. However, about 66.4% of respondents (strongly) agreed that there is need to amend IT Act, 2000, so as to further plug and reduce legal uncertainties, infirmities, flaws and deficiencies in cyberspace.

**Conclusion:**

The regulation of cyberspace is a dynamic process. Neither socio-legal regulatory modes nor any technical procedures can provide a guarantee of safe and secure cyberspace. Regulation of cyberspace would require the sum of all three constraints operating together. Main goal for future of the Indian law should be to improve the current status of regulations. Bottom-up improvements in technological capacity as well as top-down acceptance of more overall responsibility must be part of strategy for an effective and durable regulation of cyberspace.