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CYBER SECURITY AND CYBER LAWS IN INDIA DR. RAHUL SINGH

# CYBER SECURITY *And* CYBER LAWS IN INDIA



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## **Chapter 6**

### **IDENTITY THEFT AND CYBER CRIME**

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#### **ABSTRACT**

In the digital age, identity theft and cybercrime have become ubiquitous problems. This study examines the increasing convergence of these two phenomena, examining the ways in which identity theft is facilitated by cybercrime and the severe outcomes that result for its victims. This paper will examine the several techniques used by hackers to obtain personal data, such as virus assaults, phishing schemes, and data breaches. Additionally, it will look at the various forms of identity theft, including financial identity theft and medical identity theft.

The consequences of identity theft on victims, including monetary losses, harm to creditworthiness, and psychological suffering, will be further examined in this article. We will look at the legislative and regulatory structures aimed at stopping cybercrime and identity theft and point out their advantages and disadvantages.

Lastly, the report will make suggestions for ways to reduce the dangers associated with identity theft and cybercrime.

This could entail pushing for stronger data protection laws, encouraging international collaboration amongst law enforcement agencies, and raising cybersecurity awareness among people and companies.

This study paper seeks to increase awareness of identity theft and cybercrime by examining their dynamic nature and to aid in the creation of practical solutions for protecting people and communities online.

*Keywords:* identity theft, cybercrime, phishing, malware, cybersecurity awareness

## **IDENTITY THEFT**

'Identity' goes beyond names and faces in the connected cyber world of today. It is a digital asset that is significantly more susceptible but just as precious as any actual wealth. Identity theft is the unapproved purchase and mishandling of this private property, which could have disastrous repercussions. It is an increasingly common crime that involves the illicit acquisition and use of a person's information without their permission. It encompasses the theft of personal data, which can range from social security credentials to bank account information and medical records, for unauthorized purposes, often resulting in considerable personal and financial damage.

The issue goes beyond the mere unlawful use of sensitive information. Identity theft fundamentally breaches an individual's privacy and security, undermining their financial independence and personal sovereignty. This crime that grows in the digital age's shadows, as personal data is