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Cybercrimes

- Cybercrime is a crime that involves a computer and a network.

- The computer may have been used to commit the crime and in many cases, it is also the target. Cybercrime may threaten a person or a nation's security and financial health.

Definition

- Any offenses committed against individuals or groups of individuals to harm the reputation or cause physical or mental trauma through electronic means can be defined as Cybercrime. Electronic means can include but are not limited to, the use of modern telecommunication networks such as the Internet (networks including chat rooms, emails, notice boards and groups) and mobile phones (Bluetooth/SMS/MMS).

Types of Cybercrimes

- **Identity theft** – Identity theft is defined as theft of personnel information of an individual to avail financial services or steal the financial assets themselves.

- **Cyberterrorism**–Cyberterrorism is committed with the purpose of causing grievous harm or extortion of any kind subjected towards a person, groups of individuals, or governments.

- **Cyberbullying**–Cyberbullying is the act of intimidating, harassment, defaming, or any other form of mental degradation through the use of electronic means or modes such as social media.

- **Hacking**–Access of information through fraudulent or unethical means is known as hacking. This is the most common form of cybercrime know to the general public.

- **Defamation**–While every individual has his or her right to speech on internet platforms as well, but if their statements cross a line and harm the reputation of any individual or organization, then they can be charged with the Defamation Law.

- **Trade Secrets**–Internet organization spends a lot of their time and money in developing software, applications, and tools and rely on Cyber Laws to protect their data and trade secrets against theft; doing which is a punishable offense.

- **Freedom of Speech**–When it comes to the internet, there is a very thin line between freedom of speech and being a cyber-offender. As freedom of speech enables individuals to speak their mind, cyber law refrains obscenity and crassness over the web.

- **Harassment and Stalking**–Harassment and stalking are prohibited over internet platforms as well. Cyber laws protect the victims and prosecute the offender against this offense.

Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre

- The scheme to set up I4C was approved in October 2018 and inaugurated in January 2020, to deal with all cybercrimes in a comprehensive and coordinated manner.

- I4C will be set up under the newly created Cyber and Information Security (CIS) division of Ministry of Home Affairs.

Components

- National Cyber Crime Threat Analytics Unit

- National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal

- National Cyber Crime Training Centre

- Cyber Crime Ecosystem Management Unit

- National Cyber Crime Research and Innovation Centre

- National Cyber Crime Forensic Laboratory Ecosystem

- Platform for Joint Cyber Crime Investigation Team

- The I4C will assist in centralizing cyber security investigations, prioritize the development of response tools and bring together private companies to contain the menace.

The Citizen Financial Cyber Fraud Reporting and Management System

- The 155260 Helpline and its Citizen Financial Cyber Fraud Reporting and Management System has been made operational by the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre, I4C under the Ministry of Home Affairs, with active support and cooperation from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), all major banks, Payment Banks, Wallets and Online Merchants.

- It is currently being utilized along with 155260 by seven States and Union Territories covering more than 35 per cent of the country's population. These are Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Telangana, Uttarakhand

and Uttar Pradesh. Roll out in the other States for pan-national coverage is underway to prevent the flow of money siphoned off by fraudsters.

➢ The Helpline was soft launched on first of April this year. Since, its soft launch, in a short span of two months, Helpline 155260 has been able to save more than 1.85 crore rupees of defrauded money from reaching the hands of fraudsters, with Delhi and Rajasthan saving 58 lakh rupees and 53 lakh rupees.