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# TECH TALK

A GNLU Centre for Law and Technology Initiative

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## 1. IT RULES AMENDMENT EMPOWERS CENTRE TO IDENTIFY 'FAKE NEWS' IN SOCIAL MEDIA ABOUT CENTRAL GOVT

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India, has issued the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Amendment Rules, 2023, granting MeitY the power to establish a fact check unit that will identify fake or misleading online content related to the Central Government. Social media intermediaries and telecom service providers must inform users not to share any false information about the Central Government identified by the fact check unit, or risk losing their safe harbor immunity. The Internet Freedom Foundation (IFF) and the Editors Guild of India have expressed concerns about the amendment, stating that it could infringe on freedom of speech and expression.

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## 2. TECHNOLOGY BY ITSELF NOT A REMEDY FOR ALL ILLS: CJI DY CHANDRACHUD EMPHASISES NEED FOR DIGITAL INCLUSION

Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud emphasized the importance of digital inclusion and designing technology that aligns with India's social realities during the platinum jubilee celebrations of the Gauhati High Court. He highlighted the launch of the 'Bhoroxa' mobile application by the Gauhati High Court, which aims to ensure women's safety and empowerment. Justice Chandrachud commended the developers for considering the digital gender divide and enabling the application to work in areas with no internet connectivity. He stressed that technology alone is not a solution and must be accompanied by an inclusive ecosystem that benefits all individuals.

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### **3. INDIA SET TO CURB TECH GIANTS' DISCRETION WITH DIGITAL COMPETITION LAW, POTENTIALLY BENEFITING HOMEGROWN STARTUPS**

India is preparing to introduce a Digital Competition Law to limit the discretion of tech giants and potentially benefit homegrown startups. The law may impose restrictions on listing charges and increase scrutiny on pre-loaded apps. It aims to prevent discrimination against domestic startups and prohibit tech giants like Google, Meta, Twitter, and Apple from favoring their own apps in search and ranking. A committee under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs is working on the draft of the law, which is expected to be presented in Parliament during the monsoon session.

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### **4. NYSE-LISTED AI-ENABLED TECHNOLOGY COMPANY DISCO EXPANDS GLOBAL FOOTPRINT WITH ENTRY INTO INDIA**

AI-enabled technology company DISCO, listed on the NYSE, has expanded its global presence by opening an office in Gurugram, India. The new office, operating as CS Disco India PVT LTD, will enhance DISCO's ability to provide round-the-clock professional assistance to clients worldwide. DISCO's Co-Founder and CEO, Kiwi Camara, expressed excitement about the company's mission to assemble a talented team that values the law and delivers innovative legal technology solutions. The expansion into India aligns with DISCO's goal of building a diverse global team and tapping into the country's technology talent hub.

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## 5. 'NO REGULATIONS FOR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN INDIA': IT MINISTER ASHWINI VAISHNAW

IT and Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw informed Parliament that the Indian government is not planning to regulate the growth of artificial intelligence (AI) or introduce specific laws for AI in the country. However, the government acknowledges ethical concerns and is working on standardizing responsible AI practices and promoting best practices. The Ministry of Electronics and IT, along with CDAC, is developing a proof-of-concept project called AIRAWAT to provide a computing platform for AI research and knowledge dissemination. The government aims to leverage AI to deliver personalized citizen-centric services through digital public platforms while addressing concerns such as bias, privacy violations, transparency, and responsibility highlighted in the National Strategy for AI.

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