

PRIVACY

October 2012: The Report of the Group of Experts on Privacy is published and released to the public.

CIS has contributed to the drafting and the final version of the report.

April 2013: CIS drafts "The Privacy (Protection) Bill 2013"

The Bill represents a citizen's version of a privacy legislation for India, and will be shared with key stakeholders including civil society, industry, and government.

April 2013 - August 2013: CIS collaborate with FICCI and DSCI to hold six multi-stakeholder meetings across India.

The roundtables will discuss in part, the text of the Report of Group of Experts on Privacy and the Privacy (Protection) Bill 2013. The dialogue of the meetings will be compiled and presented at the Internal Government Meeting to be held in October 2013.

October 2013: The "Privacy Bill 2013" by the Department of Personnel and Training is leaked to the public.

In January 2012 CIS holds a public meeting in Mumbai to discuss the leaked Privacy Bill 2013.

December 2011: Justice AP Shah constitutes a Group of Experts to make recommendations for a privacy legislation in India.

CIS is invited onto the committee and attends seven meetings chaired by Justice AP Shah from December 2011 - October 2012.

November 2010: The Privacy Approach Paper is released to the public

CIS responds to the approach paper through a public submission and advocates for a privacy legislation that recognizes privacy as a fundamental human right.



DNA

2007: The Draft DNA Profiling Bill to the public is released to the public by the Department of Biotechnology

Beginning in 2011, CIS critiques the draft Human DNA Profiling Bill 2007. CIS interacts with GeneWatch UK and Council of Responsible Genetics to inform their critiques.

February 2012: The Human DNA Profiling Bill 2012 drafted by the Department of Biotechnology is leaked to the public.

CIS holds four public meetings on the leaked draft, and meets with the Department of Biotechnology sharing their concerns. GeneWatch UK and Council for Responsible Genetics UK visit India and support CIS in this initiative.

January 2013: The Government creates an "Expert Committee" to review and finalize the text of the DNA Profiling Bill.

CIS prepares a critique on the latest version of the bill, compares the latest version of the Bill with previous versions, and is invited onto the "Expert Committee" in April 2013.



UID

June 2010: The NIA Bill is published on the website of the UIDAI and public comments are invited.

CIS submits a high level critique of the Bill to the National Identification Authority of India.

November 2010: The UIDAI issues a final draft of the NIA Bill to the Lok Sabha for review.

CIS issues a public statement to the final draft of the Bill. CIS notes that none of the concerns raised by civil society were addressed.

January 2011 - December 2011: The Standing Committee on Finance undertakes a year long review of the UID project and NIA Bill.

CIS submits seven Open Letters to the Finance Committee pointing out weaknesses of the project and recommending possible solutions.

SCOSTA Standards: This open letter compares the SCOSTA standard with the Aadhaar biometric standard and argues that it is a more effective and secure authentication factor for India.

Biometrics: This open letter points out the weaknesses inherent in biometrics and the pitfalls in using them. It recommends procedural safeguards that should be adopted by the UID in order to make the use of biometrics more secure and inclusive.

UID and Transactions: This open letter looks at what UID transactions will be covered by, and analyzes the privacy risks associated with the storage of sensitive data.



Finance and Security: This open letter to the Finance Committee explores three connections between finance and security, and demonstrates the cost implications of operating a centrally designed identity management system as proposed by the UID.

Operational Design: This open letter to the Finance Committee highlights parts of the operational design for the UID project which are flawed.

Budget: This open letter to the Finance Committee presents the aspects of the UID project which have not been considered or incorporated into the UID's budget. For instance: re-enrollment costs, loss in human time, and the cost of the audit function.

De-duplication: This open letter to the Finance Committee attempts to characterize in an abstract way the problem to an RTI that CIS has managed to elicit and make some elementary observations.

October 2011 - November 2011: The Standing Committee on Finance issues queries on the open letters submitted by CIS, specifically on the comparison of SCOSTA and Biometrics, and unique identity.

CIS responds to the queries issued by the Parliamentary Committee on Finance with public statements.

December 2011: The Standing Committee on Finance publishes the National Identification Authority of India, 2010 Forty Second Report.

CIS begins to conceptualize the "What Would Gandhi Do" Campaign.