

Expanding Information Technology: A blessing or curse

Outline

I. Introduction:

EIT is a blessing in reality. However, it is a curse when used abusively. The lack of internet availability in numerous part of the world is hurdle in way of EIT. The hurdle and negative impacts of EIT could be overcome by introducing state and global level policies.

II. Expanding information technology - a blessing:

- A. An easy access to knowledge
- B. Enhancing the development of legal and institutional framework
- C. An ease in skills development
- D. An increase in the economic growth of a country
- E. An increase in social progress of society
- F. Establishment of co-working space

G. Public awareness about cyber threat
H. Helping the government to take decision

I. Source of better understanding about international politics

III. Expanding information technology - a curse when used abusively:

A. Dark web - threat to the world

B. Cyber attacks - threats to state's sovereignty

C. Manipulation of personal information

IV. Hurdles in the way of expanding information technology

V. Efforts that have been done so far to overcome the hurdles in way of EIT

VI. Further needed measures to overcome the hurdles in way of EIT:

A. Ensuring privacy of people

B. Eliminating dark web

VII. Conclusion:

Expanding information technology is a curse when used abusively. #

1 However, it is a blessing in reality. The unavailability of internet in many parts of the world is hurdle in the way of EIT. The hurdle and grave impacts of EIT could be addressed by making state and global-level policies.



The essay

Expanding information technology has revolutionized the world through ever increasing the advancement of technology, yet it has sparked a debate across the world whether it is a curse or a blessing. However, in reality, it is a blessing, because it has given an opportunity to the masses to get access to genuine knowledge, provided a platform for the development of skills among people, and increased socioeconomic growth of a country. Yet, EIT is a curse when it is used abusively. For instance, dark web - posed a significant challenge to the world, cyber attacks that are challenging a state's sovereignty and manipulation of personal information is a threat to the individual. So, EIT is a blessing in reality. However, it is a curse when used abusively. The lack of internet ~~and~~ ~~availability~~ availability in numerous parts of the world is a hurdle in the way of

EIT. The hurdle and negative impacts of EIT could be overcome by introducing state and global-level policies.

EIT is a blessing in many ways. First, EIT gives an easy access to knowledge ~~to users~~ through social media platforms, websites, and chat GPT. Students, researchers, and teachers can easily get access to the biggest libraries of the world through google and other IT-based platforms and find books with respect to their relevant field. Consequently, the world is heading towards more innovations and creative society. The innovation of chat GPT is one of the great signs of human creativity. Chat GPT-4 and Bing-chat GPT are ^{the} sources of genuine and accurate knowledge. Therefore, EIT has revolutioned the world and become a blessing to human being.

Second, EIT is a blessing, because it enhances the development of legal and institutional framework. The integration

of IT into legal and governmental organisations, such as educational institutions and judiciary, has provided a better platform for the proper functioning of these institutions. Consequently, these institutions have got more opportunities to serve masses and a nation. For instance, ChatGPT-4 is being considered to integrate into judiciary for the impartial verdict and the crime branch of a nation using CCTV's cameras easily identify a criminal. Also, EIT has given the transparency to the public and governmental bodies which cannot use their authority for the manipulation of policies now and so could they, they would be exposed. Thus, EIT is a blessing in reality.

Third, EIT is a blessing as it gives ~~development~~ the platforms for the development of skills. For instance, one can enhance one's communication skill by interaction of other countries people through social media platforms. A degree holder can

make his CV strong by acquiring relevant courses through online platforms. One can polish one's writing skill through online mentorship. There are many platforms, such as Facebook, X (formerly known as Twitter), Youtube, ChatGPT etc., for the skills development of a person. So, leaps and bounds progress in IT and the invention of more online platforms to serve people are signs of EIT's blessings.

Additionally, EIT is a blessing, because it has created the favorable platforms to increase economic growth and exports of a country. For instance, The revenue of the IT industry in India is estimated to have touched 245 billion USD, of which the export revenue is almost 194 billion USD in FY23. EIT has provided lots of opportunities to businessmen to sell their products - not within the boundaries of a country but beyond the borders. Amazon, Alibaba.com and many other online platforms have given opportunities to

earn wealth. Consequently, these platforms have given employment opportunities and enhanced the economic growth of a country. So, EIT is a blessing for the world.

Another reason due to which EIT is a blessing is that it increases social progress of a country. A country can be considered socially progressed and developed when it ensures the basic needs of a citizen and creates employment opportunities, skills development and so on, and so do EIT. EIT has provided basic needs: education, employment and shelter. EIT has given opportunities for the development of skills, business platforms and co-working space to work collectively. For instance, using internet, a man sitting at home can earn more wealth than a government employee, which means EIT is ~~fulfilling~~ fulfilling the basic needs of people. So, expanding information technology is a blessing for those who

to know the importance of time.

Furthermore, EIT is a blessing, because it has established a co-working space. In the third world, many societies do not allow a woman to work with men. However, EIT has almost solved this dilemma by creating a co-working space through online platforms. Facebook, X (formerly known as twitter) and numerous websites have given opportunities to men and women to work jointly. For example, co-education is not allowed in many extremist societies, a sign of backwardness of a nation, but EIT has provided platforms for a girl who belongs to extremist family to get education through zoom classes and YouTube learning-channels, and aware day to day happenings of the world. So, EIT is a blessing to human let alone to a girl who belongs to an extremist family.

Moreover, EIT is a blessing as it gives awareness to the masses about cyber-threats, and illegal access to personal and state

sensitive data. Virus apps which are designed to damage computer networking systems, manipulation of personal information via messaging and hacking of bank accounts by calling a person up are major cyber threats. However, EIT has awared the masses about these threats by posting awaring-cyber threats vedios on Youtube, Facebook, X etc. and inventing anti-virus apps. Consequently, to scam the masses some how difficult now. So, one could say that EIT has prevented one from cyber threats and is a blessing.

One of the reasons which makes EIT is a blessing is that it has been helping the democratic governments in decision making process over the last many years. Democracy demands public opinion before taking a decision. Social media has made this process easy. For instance, in a democratic country, a government put out a particular issue in front of people through social media and

and other IT-based channels to get public opinion. Resultantly, such process help government to take decision for the public welfare. Also, people can openly criticize the government's wrong policies and ~~avert their decisions~~ ~~force them to avert~~ force the government to avert the decision through social media. In such a way, EIT is strengthening the democratic norms and values. Thus, no one can say EIT is a curse but a blessing.

Last but not least reason which makes EIT is a blessing is that it is a source to understand international politics. The world is changing so rapidly and lots of development occurring day in and day out in international arena. Russia-Ukraine war, containment policies - AUKUS, Quadet, summits of developed and emerging economies and other such major developments set the direction of international politics. EIT has given a platform to a country to keep in touch with these type of

developments and set its foreign policy for the country's interests. For instance, one can easily aware of the aims and objectives of a summit (G7 summit, G20 summit, BRICS etc.) just tapping a keyboard on ~~gog~~ google. So, EIT helps to set the foreign policy of a country and is a blessing for the people of a state.

The aforementioned evidences proved that EIT is a blessing. However, it is curse when used ~~abse~~ abusively.

Dark web is an example of a curse when EIT is used abusively. The dark contains many black markets where cyber criminals buy, sell and trade personal identifiable data (PID) and other digital assets. These data can be used to theft, fraud, and blackmail. Many sites on dark web that offer paid assassination, kidnapping, human and drug trafficking, child pornography, and organ harvesting. It also ^{provides} ~~provide~~ such sites which promote radical

ization and extremism. As the result, terrorism spreads across the globe. So, EIT is a curse when used abusively.

Another evidence which makes EIT as curse is cyber attacks that have posed a substantial challenge to a state's sovereignty. Through cyber attacks, critical infrastructure of a country could be attacked, such as power grids, communication networks and transportation system. For instance, in 2021, a cyber attack on Colonial Pipeline in the US caused supply disruption of fuel. Cyber attack can damage the economic and competitiveness of a country by stealing its intellectual property and sensitive data. It also create political instability in a country by spreading fake news and misinformation. Thus, EIT can be a curse when used abusively.

Last but not least reason which makes EIT a curse for human is the manipulation of personal information.

Through messaging, calling up and using different websites, personal identifiable data could be obtained. Later, this data could be used to blackmail a person, to steal his property, damage his business, and theft sensitive data. In Pakistan, the manipulation of personal data is being done through loan providing apps. Recently, a person has committed suicide in Rawalpindi because of the loan ~~providing~~ ~~app~~ providing app blackmailing. Consequently, many loan providing apps have banned across the country. So, EIT can pose a threat to life when used abusively.

EIT is a blessing in nature and a curse ~~abusively~~ when used abusively. However, many hurdles have been faced to ~~used~~ use it as a blessing and minimize its negative impacts.

One of the hurdles in way of EIT is ^{the} lack of internet availability in far reaching areas - mountainous areas. For

instance, in Pakistan, the people of ex-FATA, and many areas of Gilgit and Balochistan have unaccess to internet. Consequently, these areas' people are not aware of the blessings of EIT. The second hurdle is that there is the availability of internet facility, but it is being used abusively due to the lack of internet education. So, many hurdles have been faced in the way of EIT.

The aforementioned ~~hurdles~~ and many other hurdles in way of EIT have posed a profound challenge to the world in general and a state in particular. Resultantly, many efforts have been done so far to overcome these hurdles. For instance, The protection of computer from virus, which damages the computer networking system, many anti-virus apps have been invented. Each state has established a IT-based department under government to prevent a nation from cyber attacks and to handle other major threats from

the dark web. For instance, the US has announced its counter cyber threats policy in this year and Australia as well. So, efforts have been done to minimize the hurdles in way of EIT.

In spite of these efforts, many hurdles have still been faced in the way of EIT. Therefore, further measures are needed to overcome the hurdles in the way of EIT. One of the needed measures is that the privacy of people needs to be ensured. Many people are being harass on daily basis by manipulating their personal information. So, a robust governmental institutions need to be established to deal with such crimes. Also, state and international level policies must be introduced to protect the future generation from IT-based threats.

Another needed measure to overcome the hurdle in way of expanding information technology is the elimination of the dark web - which grave conseq

ences have been witnessing witnessed by the world. The UN and international IT-centers need to heed the grave repercussions of the dark web, and must adopt the strategies to minimize the threats of and elimination of the dark web. Also, each country needs to keep eye on the crimes that caused by the dark web and establish separate institution to stop and minimize IT-based crimes. In such a way, the dark web threat could be overcome and eliminated.

In a net shell, EIT is a blessing in nature, because it is a source of getting modern education, enhancing the development of state institutions, polishing the skills of a person, increasing economic growth of a country and establishing co-working space. However, it is a curse when used wrongly to harass and deceive the people and state's institutions through the dark web, cyber threat and manipulation of personal information.

tions. So, EIT is a curse when used abusively and a blessing when used in its true sense. By addressing hurdles in way of EIT, the world can get more benefits of it. Thus, the EIT has potential to make the world prosperous.

