
Civil society meet pushes for internet democratisation

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NEW DELHI: In an effort to raise awareness of the need for democratisation of internet, several civil society groups came together in New Delhi last week to launch 'JustNet,' a platform to jointly raise issues on a global scale.

The civil society meet, India's biggest till date, was held as a reaction to the revelations of global surveillance by the National Security Agency (NSA) as revealed by Edward Snowden. The papers leaked by Snowden, a former NSA contractor, have established the extent to which the NSA spies on citizens across the globe and its deep connections with private corporations that play a dominant role in internet governance.

"The meeting was also an effort to ensure that we can work towards making the internet easily available to the most marginalised groups in a fair and transparent manner," Parminder Singh of Bangalore-based IT for Change told HT. His group is one of the six – Action Aid, The Web We Want, Software Freedom Law Centre, Third World Network and Free Software Movement of India.

An exclusive meeting was also held for civil society groups in India with an aim to prepare a road map for the future by formulating for governing the internet in a democratic and transparent manner.
