

Significance of password

The significance of passwords in securing private data and accounts is need of hour and the risks associated with cyber-criminals attempting to crack passwords to gain unauthorized access to systems or networks should be checked.

Passwords are essential for protecting private data and accounts from unauthorized access. They serve as a primary form of authentication in various online platforms, including email accounts, social media profiles, banking websites, and more. Without the correct password, users are unable to access their accounts, thus safeguarding their personal information from unauthorized individuals. Cybercriminals may attempt to crack passwords through various means to gain access to password-protected systems or networks. These attacks can target log IDs, usernames, or other authentication credentials. The goal of these attacks is to bypass the security measures put in place by the system and gain unauthorized access to sensitive information.

Exploring possibilities of Classless or Casteless Society

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A classless and casteless society in India envisions eliminating social hierarchies based on economic class and caste, ensuring equal opportunities and status for all individuals, regardless of background. Caste, deeply ingrained in Indian society, divides people into hierarchical groups with limited mobility, but a casteless society aims to abolish this system, promoting equality and dignity for everyone. Often, there is fervent discourse influencing both political and social circles regarding the concept of classless or casteless society. It is intriguing to ponder why this topic holds such significance in India. Do other nations truly escape the grip of discrimination, leaving us uniquely entrenched in debates over equality? Are our societal structures primarily shaped by genetic predispositions or by the environments that nurture us? This nuanced interplay between nature and nurture forms the crux of our quest for equality. Let us delve into this discourse with an open mind. In 1967-68, during my undergraduate studies, we studied the drama or comedy "Admirable Crichton" by J. M. Barrie in our English subject. Its theme vividly portrayed the transformation of an Aristocratic English family to a state of Nature when shipwrecked on a desert island and their former butler, Crichton, assumes authority. Others willingly become slaves to their former butler. However, upon returning to society, the power dynamics shift once more. It was demonstrated that the dynamics between master and subordinate persist indefinitely. This narrative underscores the challenge of achieving a classless society. Despite shared origins, individuals' destinies diverge due to societal structures and occupational demands. Merit, hard work, and intelligence should prevail over artificial societal constructs. Consider this scenario, wherein, a Brahmin, traditionally viewed as high caste, has four children. While three excel intellectually, one faces physical deformity since birth, leading to limited opportunities. Like so, life's journey is multifaceted, encompassing various joys, sorrows, and unexpected turns. Whether it's overcoming illness, experiencing accidents, or encountering miraculous recoveries, these events shape destinies beyond birth circumstances alone. Conversely, the opposite could also be true. Thus, the law of equality extends beyond birth defects to encompass life's unpredictable journey, where both adversity and fortune mould individual destinies. Pertinent to note that if the foundation of Dharma relies on blind faith, harmful traditions, selfishness, conservative views, false convictions, and policies without argumentation, then the destruction of society starts quickly. A significant question arises: how will conflicts between lower castes and within lower castes themselves be resolved? Even within the same social groups, divisions persist; some may possess resourcefulness, intelligence, and a strong work ethic, while others do not. These disparities exist across religions as well, such as between backward Muslims and Pasmanda Muslims. Thus, despite shared backgrounds, inequalities persist, highlighting the need for equitable policies and social reform. Man is intelligent only in one aspect: he attempts to rationalize his follies. Even when he takes someone's life, he rationalizes his actions! Additionally, are anti-poverty policies not the best antidote to historical wrongs? In our fast-paced technological era, let's refrain from perpetuating needless divisions within society. Hatred and animosity only serve the interests of a few, leading to societal degradation fuelled by power-intoxication and greed. Instead, let's strive for a cohesive and fruitful society, requiring collective consciousness and cooperation from every section, including religious bodies. Determined and honest efforts are essential for creating a more equitable future. Caste privilege takes on the shape of a debate on MERIT, which overlooks the point that merit is not a standalone product, instead, it is shaped by the opportunities and advantages that individuals inherit or are denied from previous generations. For example, someone born into a family with access to quality education, healthcare, nutrition, support structures and mentorship is more likely to develop the skills and abilities that are deemed meritorious in society. The world outside campus walls must genuinely eschew social and caste discrimination. Importance must be given to creating a broader societal environment that actively opposes and abstains from discriminatory practices, acknowledging that discrimination is not confined to academic settings but permeates various aspects of life. Although a caste-less society will be ideal to dream of, but the policies of our erstwhile governments since independence hasn't helped in that directions, the inequalities among various strata of people persisting in the societies can't be ignored. There is no denying the fact that non-existence of level playing field among the lower strata of societies - be it SC/ST, OBC etc proves to be the biggest impediment in removing inequalities among the society, thereby waning poverty completely. While as giving reservations was one way of providing a level playing field to downtrodden, thus, enabling them to compete with the privileged class, but the way the reservation policy has been implemented, it stands grossly misused right from ab initio. The fact that benefit of reservation is being availed by 2nd/3rd generations of bureaucrats, high ranking government officials has simply defeated the whole purpose of reservation, let us not forget that even Baba Sahib Ambedkar had advocated for reservation just for a period of 10 years. Meanwhile, PM Modi declared poverty as the biggest Caste, underscoring his administration's non-discriminatory approach to welfareism. His administration took several notable steps to promote inclusivity and upliftment. One significant accomplishment was the appointment of a woman president of India from a less privileged class. Additionally, the appointment of Mr. Ram Nath Kovind, who comes from the (OBC), as the President of India was another significant milestone in promoting social equality and representation. These actions reflect the government's efforts to ensure inclusivity and equal opportunities for all citizens. Focusing on practical solutions and emphasizing the importance of collective progress rather than exacerbating tensions between different sections of society is crucial for fostering unity and cooperation. By promoting policies that benefit everyone and encouraging a mindset of mutual support and shared goals, we can work towards building a more cohesive and prosperous society. Conclusion: It's imperative to strive for a more equitable society by implementing policies that ensure access to education, healthcare, and opportunities for all. Promotion of cultural practices and traditions that celebrate diversity and inclusivity while rejecting caste-based discrimination will also boost more equitable society. Encouraging cultural movements that challenge oppressive social norms and promote equality and justice has to be encouraged. Additionally, considering the transfer of resources from state or community ownership for the common good can contribute to this goal. Above all, it's essential to focus on boosting morale, fostering hard work, honesty, motivation, and inspiration rather than solely relying on handouts or undeserved benefits in the tech competitive world.

Protect your privacy and self on World Password Day

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Established in 2013, the event is observed on the first Thursday of May every year with the goal of improving awareness of the importance of creating complex and unique passwords and adopting password best practices to keep sensitive information private and confidential.

Passwords are now the most common way to secure accounts and while password less authentication, such as biometric identifiers and single sign-on, are becoming more popular, in the short to medium term passwords are likely to remain the most widely used way of authenticating users and preventing unauthorized account access.

They're strange, they're complex, they're everywhere, and we forget them far more than is absolutely healthy for us. No, we're not talking about anniversaries (though sometimes we are! You'll see what I mean). We're talking about your password! Passwords were first used to protect accounts against unauthorized access in computing environments in the 1960s. In 1961, researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) started using the Compatible Time-Sharing System (CTSS). The system ran on an IBM 709 and users could access the system through a dumb terminal, with passwords used to prevent unauthorized access to users' personal files. The system is widely believed to be the first to use passwords and was also one of the first to experience a password breach. In the mid-1960s, MIT Ph.D. researcher Allan Scherr needed more than his allotted 4-hour CTSS time to run performance simulations he had designed for the computer system. He discovered a way to print out all passwords stored in the system and used the passwords to gain extra time. We use them to secure the most private parts of our lives and to help protect our finances, our health records, or maybe just our emails. World Password Day reminds us of the importance of these little crypto-keys and the role they play in making sure we keep hold of our lives, identity thieves are everywhere, and these are your first digital line of defense.



History of World Password Day

Passwords have been around as long as people have been keeping secrets. However, most people think of them as what we put into the box that follows Username and Email on all those websites.

But long before that, they served just as important a role, especially in espionage and secret societies. When you want to ensure that the person you were speaking to was the person sent by your organization, why, you'd ask them for the password! Secret Organizations like the Masons and other fraternal organizations also often asked for these before letting you through the door. Without a way to keep the secrets secret, it wouldn't be much of a secret society, would it? Nowadays, such things are of far less concern, but digital protection has become absolutely vital to our day to day existence. Sometimes it's just protecting our identity on our favorite web forum, and almost everyone has a Facebook account to protect.

The problem is, where before you might need just a password or two, most people these days have dozens. Even worse, the protocol for these is often different, some requiring certain characters (numbers, Capitals, Symbols) and others denying the use. It makes having a universal password difficult, and security experts say that doing so is a terrible idea anyway. World Password Day came along to provide a warning to the world, and to spread awareness that taking care of your passwords is vital to protecting yourself against identity theft. Data is very much the currency of the modern world. If malicious actors on the internet

can get access to your account details, they can impersonate you, steal your data, and even take your money. Furthermore, they can often do all of this while effectively covering their tracks. Even if you wanted to go after them and get your money back, you couldn't. There's a terrifying statistic about the current state of our password security. Business Insider did research to determine just how vulnerable accounts were, and discovered that 10,000 of the most common passwords allow access to 98% of all accounts. In other words, most people are using the same passwords - and many for years at a time. Career hackers know this - and it is part of the reason why they've been so successful over the last few years. World Password Day, therefore, is an attempt to push back against this. The organizers want to educate the world on the importance of having a strong password. A password that resembles your date of birth or heaven forbid, the word "password" itself, is a cardinal sin. Passwords should, in their view, be long, complex, and bear no resemblance to real words. The organizers of World Password Day are also pushing the idea of two-factor authentication. As a computer-literate person, you've probably already encountered this concept. The idea is to use two forms of security to increase the chances that it is you trying to access your account, and not somebody else. Two-factor authentication can take a variety of forms. Most commonly, it involves using a regular password and then sending an alert to your phone to confirm whether it is really you logging in. If it isn't,

then you can reject the request to sign in and change your password. Interestingly, the day is meant to be a celebration of strong passwords. It sounds like a strange approach to take, but when you think about it, it makes a lot of sense. We use our passwords to protect all of our digital information, from our social media profiles to our bank accounts. Passwords are fundamental to our security and privacy. Without them, we're an open book. Every World Password Day, therefore, is an opportunity for people to find out what constitutes a robust password and how to store them.

The original idea for the event came from famed security researcher Mark Burnett. He realized that the passwords most people were using were hopelessly inadequate. He encouraged people, therefore, to institute their own "password day" once per year, where they would update all their accounts with a new, random password.

The idea remained dormant for the better part of a decade. But then semiconductor giant Intel took up the idea again in 2013 as part of its ongoing security initiatives. From that point onwards, the event gained prominence, and now the organizers have plotted a timetable for repeats for the next ten years. It will be interesting to see how World Password Day evolves with the times. Right now, a model password includes letters, numbers, changes in case, and symbols, but it might not always be that way in the future. Who knows how quantum computers and artificial intelligence will change the game? We will just have to wait and see.

How to celebrate World Password Day

Well, let's say this is less about celebrating a holiday and more about protecting your family and yourself from the dangers and possibly drastic consequences of identity theft. Go through your passwords and make them stronger; coming up with nonsense phrases you can remember; adding spaces, changing letters to numbers and the like to create something no hacker will ever be able to guess. Avoid things like names, dates, anniversaries, pet names, all of those things that we all too often post to Facebook as part of a meme. (How many "Your superhero name" things have you done? Hmm?) These are just a few of the options.

The Freedom and Power of Press

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It was Edmund Burke who coined and remarked the press and the newspapers as the fourth estate of realm and regarded as the most powerful of all the Estates, the other being the lord Spiritual, The lord's temporal and the commons. The power of press has been utmostly regarded and recognized by the world's renowned scholars, statesmen through the ages. In the same vein, President Roosevelt defined the four most essential human freedoms et.al Freedom of speech and expression (Fourth Estate), freedom to worship God in one's own religion or way, freedom from want and lastly freedom from fear and amongst all these the first one (Freedom of speech and expression) is in the top slot and occupy its unique placement albeit with passage of time its empowerment has slightly been diluted under the accruing power and pelf and more so due to the intolerance of political pressure or certain ailed aberrations.

Rightfully as thus 'John Milton' has - quoted, Pen is mightier than sword, as the single rightful stroke of pen can make or mar the destiny of the masses. It has a wide spectrum and impacts the minds of readers, public opinion are formed and their destinies reciprocally get moulded by the power of press apart from public awareness about news and views and as such forms a cohesive linkage with the public on all fronts. Press in India came under the purview of Article 19(1) A and Article (1) G of the constitution which guarantees the right to freedom of speech and expression to all its citizens and this freedom has been prudently interpreted by the courts to include though of course, the Parliament enunciated in its first amendment Act in 1951. Thus imposing reasonable restrictions on the exercise of freedom of expression in the security of the state, the friendly relations with foreign states, Public order; decency or morality or in relation to contempt of court, defamation or incitement to an offence, but at the same time the press council of India which came into existence on July 4, 1966 provided relief and safeguards to the freedom of press from undue encroachment.

The press plays a pivotal role in the transformation of destinies of nations is evidenced if we take a glimpse of the world history when the writings of great thinker and philosophers revolutioned et al, voltaire whose writings brought French Revolution. Karl Marx, Lenin, Rousseau brought Russian Revolution and talking of home India, Swami Dayanand, raja Ram Mohan Roy, Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. Radha Krishnan and Pandit J Nehru's mighty writings brought laurels and then Guraji Rabinder Nath Tagore was first ever noble laureate of his writing skills. In a healthy democratic set up lies the four pillars of strength et al executive, legislature, Judiciary and the freedom of press and if any incredible attempt is ever made relating to intimidation, its pillars are liable to collapse in the arbitrary. In legal parlance, Justice Patanjali Shastri has rightfully observed in Romesh Thapers's case which goes, "Freedom of press lies at the foundation of all the democratic organizations, for without free press or political discussions, no public discussions or public education can be so essential for the healthy setup and functioning of the popular Govt." The Freedom press has, of-course, lifted the cloud of ignorance by vastly widening the human mind by way of lighting up of its multitudinal horizons to a larger extent And this freedom propagated and enacted in vide, varied-ranification to unprecedented scale. The newspapers play a constructive role in its entirety listening to noi polloi in their wider interest. But ironically, of course certain newspapers succumb to yellow journalism thereby defeating the very spirit and sanctity of this noble and the most pertinent source of information and these include romanticism, vulgarity, rumors and mudslinging which warrant to be nipped in the bud. Whereas the public at large is the basic custodian of the freedom of press as the watch dogs are those who man it and as such the public stands to hold the basic responsibility of preserving and defending the platform of freedom in the realm of public and its genre. This can boost and give fillip to milch the virtual freedom of press to its corrective conclusion and any on toward-ness must not be mis-constructed in any manner or fashion. This is the true essence of freedom of

expression lie press media without propensity and prejudice and this way alone the press can prove to be the best connoisseur for the public in unison.

Scrupulously however; some press persons and Journalists recall with trepidation the black days when internal emergency was clamped down in this Country by our late premier Mrs. Indira Gandhi by way of gagging it and wrapping up all its forms of dissent. It was, defector, an ugly interregnum of the fundamental freedoms bestowed by the constitution and perhaps the worst victim of this serious onslaught was 'Shanker's Weekly', a favourite Cartoon magazine of Pt Nehru and yet another onslaught to the freedom of press loomed large on the most leading paper "The Hindu" at the peak of its 125th anniversary on the day of 7th November, 2003 by a decision taken by the Tamil Nadu legislative Assembly against the news paper alleging breach of legislative privilege. This de facto, was the biggest assault on the freedom of press which offshooted a mass upsurge in almost all parts, of the country with the result that even the Apex Court of India endorsed it as a suppression of the bold voice of the India is having an active; print and electronic media and reports reveal that there are more than 55,780 newspapers and other allied periodicals as on the ,date-of-apart from the radio broadcastings and audio visuals include the dailies, Weeklies, fortnightlies monthlies and annuals in 'English, Hindi, Urdu and other multi lingual versions of different states of India.'

Conclusively, therefore if is added that the bygone rule" might is right" does hold no good in the modern civilized world. Victories gained in battle or war are far too of importance than the stroke of pen which cultivate the destiny of individual in particular and the entire nation as a, whole. In a sense, the press has superseded the sword under the banner of freedom of expression to protect the rights particularly, of those ones who stand at the cross-roads of the most heinous and depressed section so that we can see India the strongest democracy of the sub continental viewpoint over the globe.

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Strengthening Panchayati Raj Institutions for Rural Upliftment

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Panchayati Raj was first started in 1959 at Nagaur (Rajasthan) and Andhra Pradesh. Firstly it was observed in 2010. Panchayats are physically most proximate institutions of government for people living in rural areas. According to the Indian Constitution Panchayats are the institutions of local self-government in rural India. In India three-tier Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) system is mandatory for all states with the exception of the some states whose population is less than 2 million. These tiers consist of: Gram Panchayats at village or cluster of villages level, Block Panchayat at sub-district or block level and the District Panchayat at the district level. For smaller states such as Sikkim, only two tiers system, namely Village Panchayat and District Panchayats have been constituted. The Constitution also mandates that democratically elected Panchayats should prepare plans for economic and social development of rural areas. They should also implement the schemes for local economic development and social justice as entrusted by the Central and State governments. The Eleventh Schedule in the Constitution of India provided an indicative list of 29 subjects as possible work areas for Panchayati Raj Institutions. There is dire need to look into the number of functionaries in panchayats whose capacities should be enhanced. There is also need to analyse the current strategies and emerging issues for capability building of the staff in Panchayats. There is need to contemplate over the capacity building requirements of Elected Representatives (ERs) and staff of Panchayats so that they can electively undertake their mandated roles and responsibilities. Their social and educational backgrounds should also be analysed properly. In the structure of Panchayati Raj village Panchayat is the lowest unit. Panchayat members and officials live with the people in their respective villages or in the nearby villages. Being physically close to the local people, Panchayat members are expected to respond to various demands from the locals, as well as from other organizations. They follow well-defined norms and procedures to manage the affairs of institutions of Panchayati Raj. Thus, Panchayat functionaries should be well aware about the intricacies of management and finances of Panchayats, including the procedures to conduct Panchayat meetings, Gram Sabha meetings, meetings of standing committees etc. There is need to know the roles, responsibilities and rights of institutions of Panchayats. There is also essential to understand the fundamentals of Panchayati Raj, democracy; the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, the State Panchayati Raj Act, social justice, participatory planning, gender equality, e-governance etc. The Panchayati Raj situations vary from state to state depending on devolution of functions, funds and functionar-

ies. The capacity needs for Elected Representatives and other stakeholders also vary in different states. There are various common issues such as communal harmony, human rights, climate changes, environmental issues and disasters. The roles of Panchayats in implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes are also increasing. Other departments/ministries like Education, Health, Agriculture, Water, Sanitation, Women and Child Development, Tribal Development etc. also implement programmes at Panchayat level. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Grameen (PMAY-G), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) and Swachh Bharat Mission are among the important centrally sponsored schemes which involve Panchayats. Panchayats mainly spend the funds on water supply, sanitation, playgrounds, crematorium etc. Panchayats have large number of staff members with different knowledge, backgrounds and interests. According to the enactment of 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act in 1993, about 2, 48,620 Village Panchayats, 6425 Block Panchayats and 601 District Panchayats are presently functional in India. The three-tier structures of Panchayats in all states across the nation elect a total of about 3 million representatives for 5-year electoral terms. Out of these, more than 1.2 million representatives are women. The elected representatives from Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Castes are also close to a million. Most of these women and marginalized men, getting elected to Panchayats are having their first ever experiences of rural development. They are assigned various duties in social and institutional environments. These elected representatives are also responsible in the implementation of the Central and State schemes in the Panchayats. They require specific skills and technical knowledge to perform these roles. Thus, they require specific trainings and capacity building programmes. The trainings and capacity building among the Panchayat Functionaries are quite challenging because of their diversity in knowledge, education and varying contextual situations. Beside the core functionaries, departmental functionaries, especially from departments devolved to Panchayats, need to understand the Panchayati Raj system thoroughly, as well as their roles in it. They need to be oriented, sensitized and trained.

In 2014 the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India prepared a National Capability Building Framework to provide guidelines to states for training contents, types of trainers and modes of training. It proposed the engagement of various training institutions of central and state governments, accredited NGOs, academic institutions and mass media in undertaking various types of capacity needs of the Panchayati Raj system. Almost

all states have their own SIRDs, which are financially well supported by the Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Panchayati Raj and respective state governments. The National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR) in Hyderabad act as a national nodal institute for all SIRDs. Many Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) also perform institution based and extensive trainings for Panchayati Raj. Though institution-based training is critical, it also has limitations in reaching and catering to a very large number of stakeholders. A cascade mode of training enables decentralization of training to many locations, such as district, block and even village or cluster of villages' level. Trainees also feel more comfortable with this approach, being close to their homes and environment for face to face interactions with the trainers who often speak in local dialect. For cascade modes of training, Master Trainers are prepared amongst the most knowledgeable and interested persons from different locations in intensive MTOT (Master Training of Trainers) programmes conducted by the State Institutes of Rural Development (SIRDs) and Extension Training Centres (ETCs). The Master Trainers in turn train large numbers of Trainers in institution-based intensive Training of Trainers (TOTs), which are conducted in various regions or districts. Exposure visits have been found to be one of the most effective ways of capacity building. The ERs and officials of panchayats visit at different places and learn from seeing and discussing. These exposure visits also promoted friendship between the officials and the Elected Representatives (ERs) which develops good working culture in Panchayat. Many SIRDs use distance learning methods which is based on satellite communications through central studio relay centres and decentralized Satellite Interactive Terminals. Many Academic Institutions, SIRDs and NGOs also run courses on Panchayati Raj programmes for benefits of students, officials of Panchayats and the elected representatives. Radio, Television, local dailies etc. are used for dissemination of popular knowledge about the Panchayati Raj Institutions. An easily understandable literature is also prepared in local languages and is distributed to disseminate the knowledge about of functioning of the Panchayati Raj Institutions. Panchayati Raj system has seen many ups and downs. But people have recognized and accepted its importance for rural development. It has therefore become a trend to include the roles of Panchayats in the guidelines of almost all development schemes, which are being implemented in the rural areas.

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