

'Aadhaar data safe, hacking into system is very tough'

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Hyderabad: Dr Rudra Murthy, chief information security officer of the Ministry of Home Affairs, said on Monday that the Aadhaar system and the data on it have not been compromised.

Replying to a query from IT professionals at a cyber security conclave here, Murthy said: "The Aadhaar system and data on it are completely safe and it is very difficult to hack into it. Reported claims on leakages and security threats were because of the companies using the system and not the system itself. The Aadhaar ecosystem and companies using it are creating the problem. However, as a nation, we need to strengthen the privacy of citizens. Various committees are working to protect privacy and Aadhaar data is also part of it." Mur-

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thy added that Aadhaar was much more robust in identifying threats.

Telangana IT secretary Jayesh Ranjan said, "When I visited United States, I was informed by Mastercard CEO Ajaypal Singh Banga that they face 30,000 hacking attacks daily. On any bad day, the number rises to 50,000. This threat is there for companies and agencies here too. Building firewalls and developing security defence sho-

uld be priority. Telangana government is the first state to have a cyber security policy and we have taken up cyber security audit of various government departments."

Roland Cloutier, staff VP, chief security officer, ADP said: "I have watched India grow up in the cyber area. Also, the higher education institutions have fantastic programs in educating next generation cyber professionals. However, there are a few gaps.

"One is that we don't see a lot of innovation from a cyber industry perspective coming out. Now, one theory is that you are busy protecting all the multinationals that are here. The other area is government.

"There is a big gap, an unusual one, between capabilities of the government and civilian area. We have to figure out how to bridge that gap."