

Addressing Cybersecurity Challenges in Smart Cities

The modern and disruptive technological advancements offer profound promises for the future of smart cities, which harness the power of ICT to address the urbanization challenges and consequently bolster the quality of life of its inhabitants. Recently, it has been witnessed that many countries have built smart cities and this concept is booming worldwide. The use of cutting-edge technologies in the smart cities e.g. cyber physical systems, IoT, Cloud computing, blockchain, AI, and Big Data could bring an array of benefits to provide a multitude of useful services to help all the stakeholders. These services can be extended to a wide range of domains for efficient urban operations, including the environment, transportation, healthcare, tourism, mobility, energy management, and safety and security etc. However, the increased connectivity of smart cities may expose them to a diverse set of Cybersecurity risks, which could put the entire city operations and lives of its inhabitants at jeopardy. Therefore, as smart cities move from concept to reality, Cybersecurity becomes a top concern for the digitally connected communities. In this speech, we would explore various technical and technological concerns that could be faced by the smart cities. In particular, we would focus on the Cybersecurity challenges, which should be placed at the top of the agenda and recognized as the paramount priority of the stakeholders. Moreover, we would also discuss some of our research contributions as well as future directions in this domain.