SUMMARY: NOTES FOR BUILDING A FRAMEWORK TO UNDERSTAND A TECHNOSOCIAL STATE

The framework that has been developed in this dissertation, to posit the technosocial subject in everyday practices and engagements with technology, will hopefully allow for a further examination of what this technosocial state looks like and what are the ways in which its territorial sovereignty and its hyper-territorial modes of governance produce anxieties around identity, citizenship, rights and everyday technology transactions in India. It is not in the scope of this dissertation to give an account of what the technosocial state might be, but the examples discussed above seem to be fruitful ways of inquiring into this phenomenon. Just as has been demonstrated in the dissertation, with technosocial spaces, bodies and subjects, it would be worth our while to look at the technologised history of state governance in India, the continuities and ruptures that e-governance initiatives and projects produce, and the anxieties around the role of the State in the globalised contexts of governance. Unpacking the State’s attitude, engagement, aspiration and affective relationships with the future of technologies seems as important as looking at its policies, regulations and legislative structures.

The Technosocial, as it has been constructed in this dissertation, has drawn from various sources – academic research, speculative fantasy and science fiction, cultural and social theories, everyday cultural practices, legislative and policy practices, media and popular discourse, and cyberculture. The intersections between these different streams allowed for complicating the more common-sense understanding of technology-human relationships and engagements that existed in different disciplines and fields. The dissertation has shown how, in order to produce a more comprehensive and contextual understanding of the Technosocial, it is necessary to produce a multidisciplinary dialogue between these different sources and
approaches. It is hoped that a similar framework can be developed in the future, with this dissertation as the catalyst, to understand the mechanics, politics and reconfigurations of the Technosocial State and the conditions of governance that are established to accommodate for the Technosocial Subject.