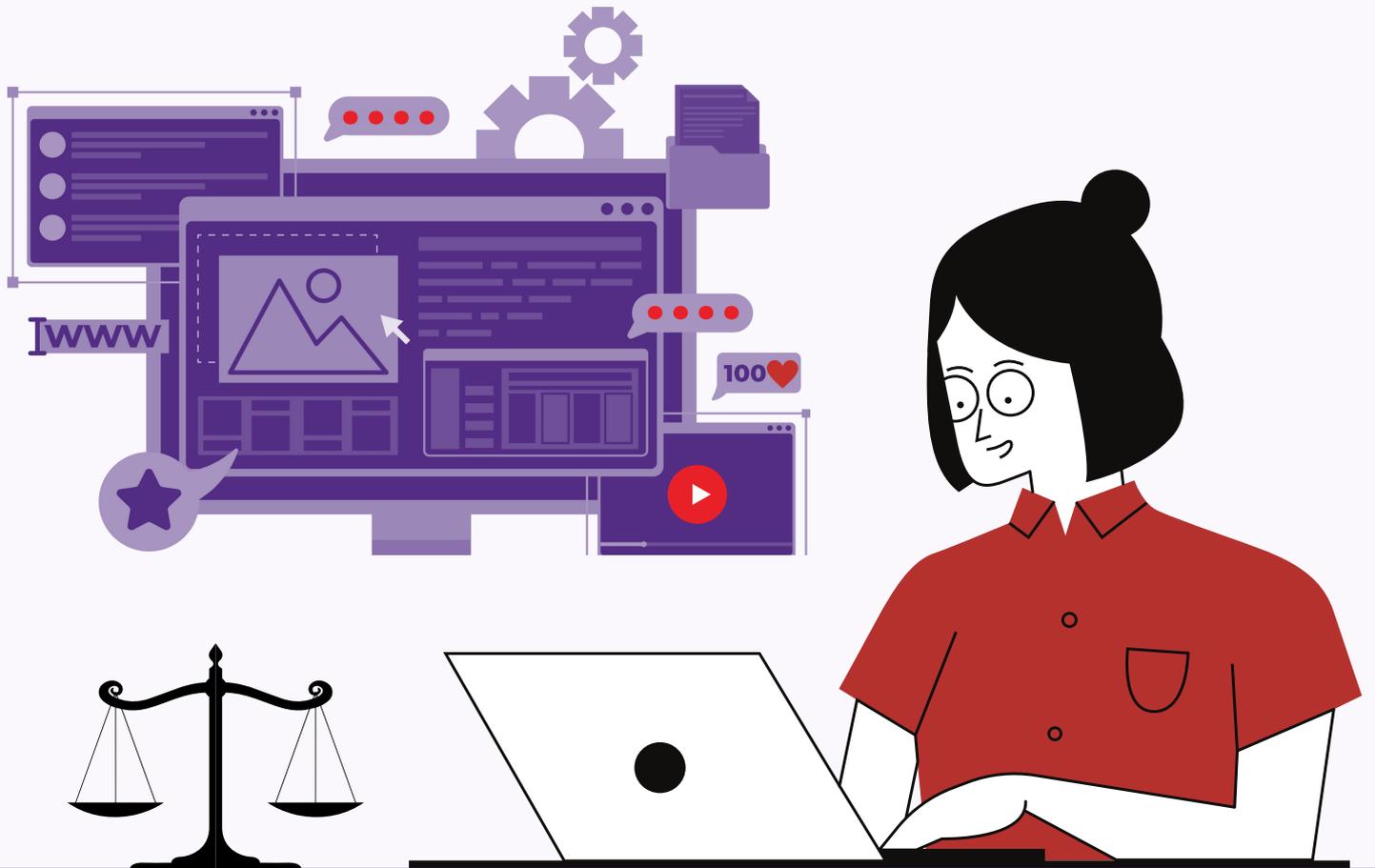


MY DIGITAL RIGHTS PROJECT REPORT 2021-22



Red Dot Foundation in partnership with the US Embassy, India and the US Consulate General, Hyderabad organised in-person cyber safety workshops in 4 States - Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Delhi and Odisha for women and girls between the age group of 18 to 21 years. The project which kickstarted in October 2021 ended in April 2022 focussing on understanding gender, sex and sexuality, online gender-based violence, legal remedies and best practices to use social media. In order to facilitate a wider audience for engaging conversations around cyber safety, panel discussions and tweetchats on different topics were organised, addressing cyber safety of women and girls.

Summary of the Project

The first quarter was largely spent on researching the latest trends in cyber safety and usage of the internet and social media by young girls. Two workshops were conducted with Protsahan NGO in Delhi along with a tweetchat organised during the 16 days of activism and 3 more in the month of January, March and April. All the tweetchats were organised by expert curators of cyber safety and the last tweetchat was curated by the participants of the My Digital Workshop. This report covers the work done - pre-survey design, development and administration, development of content for workshops, training the trainers amongst the RDF staff and identifying and signing up partners in Delhi, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Odisha. During the second quarter, 10 workshops were facilitated with NGO Ignis Careers in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, 4 with Bhubaneswar City Knowledge Innovation Cluster and 1 with NGO Soch in Odisha, and 2 with Teach for India (Delhi) and 1 with Aroh NGO in Delhi. We also organised two panel discussions, 1 with the Rotary Club, Bhubaneswar online, and 1 with the Indian School of Business, Hyderabad in person.



Overview of the Workshops

Here are the details of each workshop with dates and number of participants

Sr. no.	Date	Time	College/Organisation	Location	No. of Participants
1	13.12.2021	1 pm to 4 pm	Protsahan Foundation India	Delhi	<u>31</u>
2	15.12.2021	1 pm to 4 pm	Protsahan Foundation India	Delhi	25
3	07.03.2022	1 pm to 4 pm	Vignan Institute of Technology for Women	Visakhapatnam	35
4	08.03.2022	1 pm to 4 pm	Avanthi Engineering College	Vijayanagar (Thagara pu Valasa)	33
5	15.03.2022	1 pm to 4 pm	Andhra Loyola Engineering College	Vijayawada	22



Sr. no.	Date	Time	College/Organisation	Location	No. of Participants
6	16.03.2022	1 pm to 4 pm	SPCRM Engineering College	Vijayawada	32
7	17.03.2022	11 am to 2 pm	Adithya Institute Technology and Science	Kakinada (Suram Palem)	33
8	14.03.2022	1 pm to 4 pm	Khammam Institute of Technology and Science	Khammam	40
9	21.03.2022	1 pm to 4 pm	St. Ann's Degree College for Women	Hyderabad	22
10	22.03.2022	1 pm to 4 pm	Nagarjuna, Govt. Women's College, Govt. Undergrad College	Nalgonda - surrounding (SP Office dormitory hall - projector+internet+snack s+6 charts and papers	44



Sr. no.	Date	Time	College/Organisation	Location	No. of Participants
11	23.03.2022	1 pm to 4 pm	St. Anthony Women's Degree College	Sangareddy	<u>32</u>
12	25.03.2022	1 pm to 4 pm	Sathavahan a University - Arts College	Karimnagar	45
13	28.03.2022	2 pm to 5 pm	Utkal University	Bhubaneshwar	32
14	29.03.2022	2 pm to 5 pm	Rama Devi University	Bhubaneshwar	25
15	29.03.2022	2 pm to 5 pm	Child Development Program Centre, SoCh	Paradeep	20



Sr. no.	Date	Time	College/Organisation	Location	No. of Participants
16	30. 03. 2022	2 pm to 5 pm	Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences	Bhubaneswar	37
17	31. 03. 2022	2 pm to 5 pm	Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology	Bhubaneswar	25
18	04.04.2022	1 pm to 4 pm	Teach For India	New Delhi	25
19	06.04.2022	1 pm to 4 pm	Teach For India	New Delhi	25
20	07.04.2022	1 pm to 4 pm	Aroh Foundation	Delhi	25

Total number of participants covered in 4 states - 608



Pre Surveys

The pre-survey forms are in 4 languages - English, Hindi, Odia and Telugu to help us better understand the participants of the workshop. The survey responses have helped in moulding the content as per the needs and requirements of the participants. The target number of responses to the survey was set at 50 responses in each state. We were successful in achieving 550 online responses in total and 58 offline. The baseline survey acted as an indicator of understanding the lived realities of the girls and content was developed accordingly. We made a few dashboards of the responses from the girls to give them a custom-made curriculum on their social media behaviours.

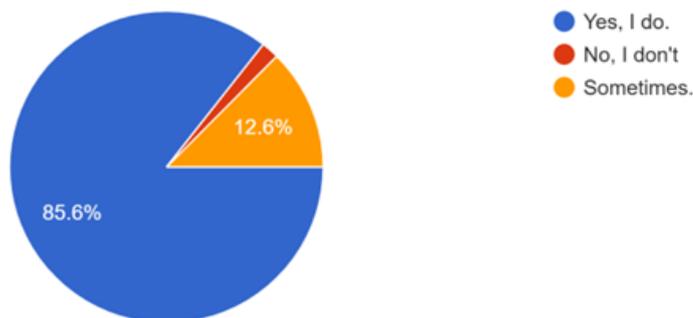
Here is the link to our pre-workshop surveys: [Baseline Survey Folder](#)

Some trends found through the survey are as follows:

85.6% of the participants were daily users of the Internet and 12.6 % of them used it occasionally.

Do you use the Internet on a daily basis?

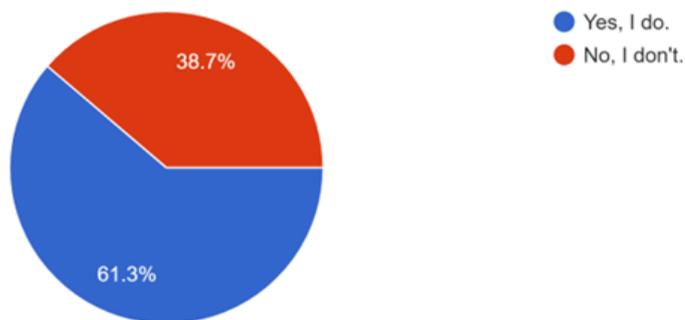
548 responses



61.3% of the participants believed that the internet is not a safe space for marginalised people.

Do you think that the Internet is a safe space for women, children and queer folx?

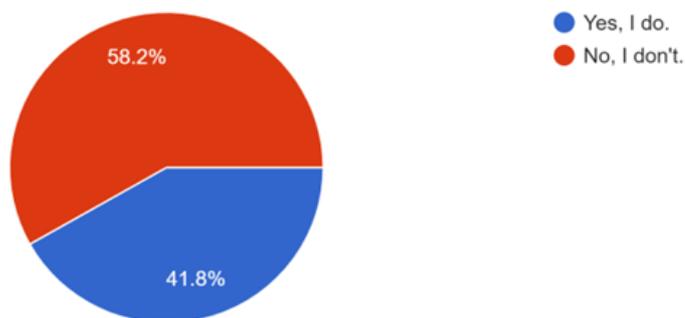
537 responses



58.2% of the participants did not know where to complain against cyberbullying

Do you know where to complain if you face an issue of online bullying?

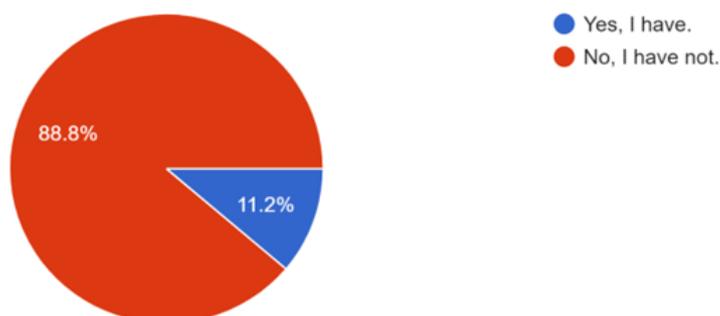
536 responses



88.8% of participants had never filed a complaint on cyber crimes.

Have you ever filed a complaint against a cyber crime, or reported an offence on Social Media Platforms?

536 responses



Post Surveys

The Post-Workshop Survey has been circulated after 6 months of the first workshop. This survey will help us track the strengths as well as the shortcomings of the curriculum based on the progress of the girls who have undergone the training on My Digital Rights. It will also act as an assessment for the participants to track their progress after attending the My Digital Rights workshop. As the mark of 6 months for the first 2 Delhi workshops was recently achieved, the participants are in the process of assessing themselves.

The analysis of the post-surveys will be submitted on 30 September 2022.

Here is the link to our post-workshop survey - [My Digital Rights](#) (Post-workshop baseline survey)

Feedback

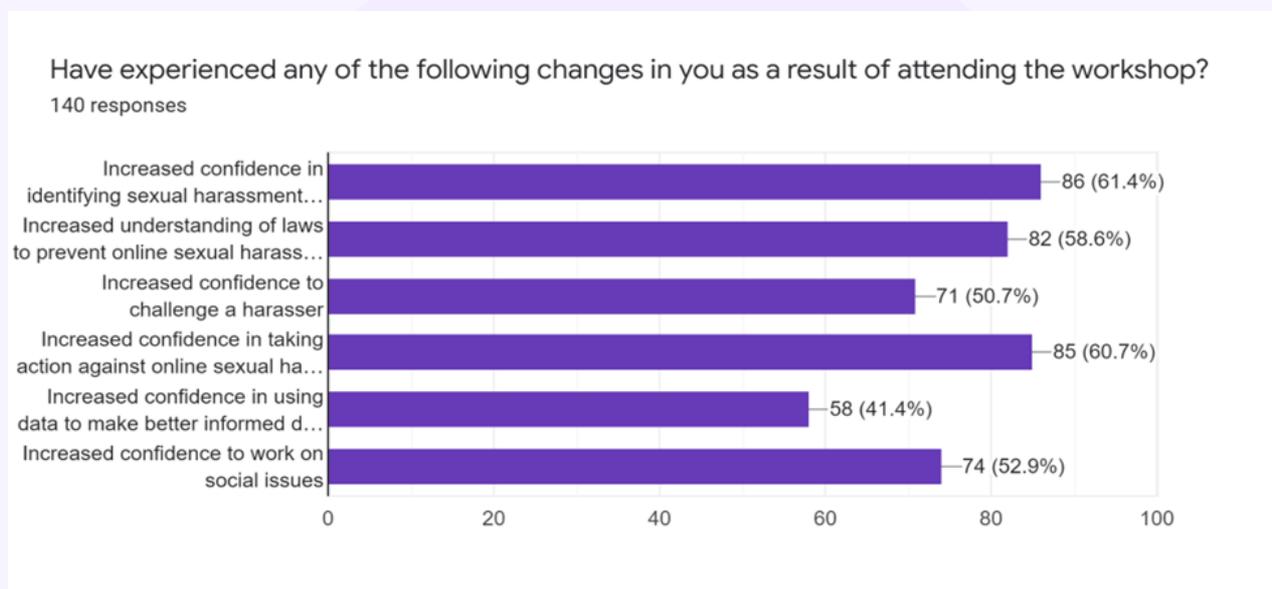
Feedback forms were designed to understand the impact of the presentations and activities of the workshop. It was an easy-to-read form with numerical indicators for questions on whether the workshop was up to par, participants inculcated a better understanding of the subject at the end of the workshop, the trainers knew their subject well and so on.



Here is the link to our feedback form: [Feedback form.](#)

Following are a few statistical understandings of the feedback that we received from the participants along with some testimonials.

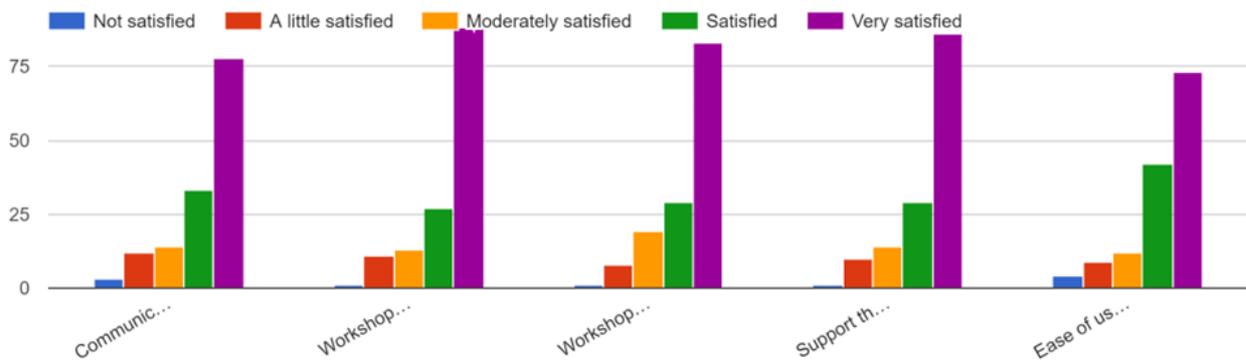
61.4% of the participants felt their confidence increased in identifying gender-based violence and crime on the internet after attending the workshop, whereas 60.7% felt confident to take action against online sexual harassment. 58.6% of the participants expressed an increase in understanding of laws to prevent online sexual harassment.



The following is the data on the overall experience of the participants after attending the workshop on the basis of the following 4 criteria - communication skills, curriculum, interactive activities involved, support throughout the workshop and use of Safecity to report.



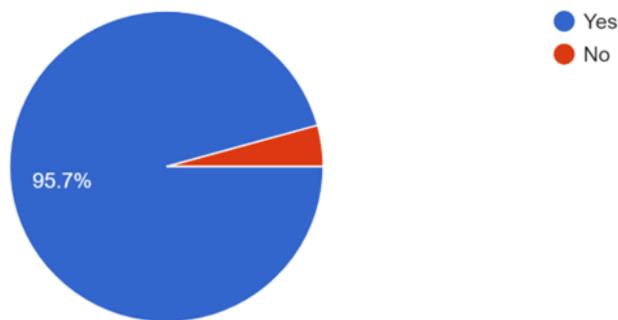
Please rate your overall level of satisfaction with the Red Dot Foundation Workshop.



95.7% of the participants stated that they knew where and how to report a cyber crime after attending the workshop. This is a significant increase of 53.9% in those who had claimed they did not know the reporting mechanism before attending the workshop, as stated in the pre-workshop survey statistics.

Do you know how or where to report a case of cyber crime - online bullying, sexual harassment, doxing, etc.?

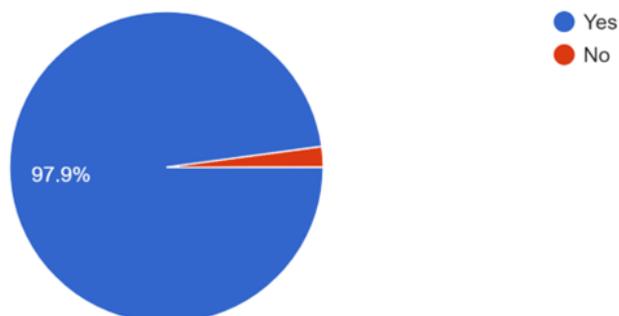
140 responses



97.9% of the participants stated that after attending the workshop, a survivor of gender-based violence will be better equipped to report the incidents in the future.

Do you feel that survivors of gender based violence are better equipped to report incidents in future after attending a program/workshop with Red Dot Foundation?

140 responses



Here are a few consensual testimonies of the participants of the workshop:

➤ *“The workshop helped us identify sexual harassment and gender-based violence. How to identify the issues in the case to file a complaint against such violence and harassment. How and where to file your complaint. Created awareness about cyber crimes and our rights against such crimes. We feel more confident to raise our voice against such wrongdoings.” - Neha, Delhi*

➤ *“It's increased my confidence level” - Rajeshree, Bhubaneswar.*

➤ *“I will always stand for myself and I'll raise my voice. I'll fight for justice” - Vooaha, Sangareddy*

➤ *“Before that session, I knew that cyberbullying was not acceptable, but after I attended this session I know it's not only about cyberbullying; there's physical violence, affecting mental trauma. Before I didn't even know how to file a case against him. But now I know that I can file a case against him for not showing my identity. So I can help my relatives, my friends, whoever faces problems in the future... It's a great conversation with ma'am... As a lawyer she does a tremendous job...and I can share this experience with everyone whom I connect with.” - Monalisa, Bhubaneswar*



Tweetchat analysis

In this project, tweetchats act as a public discussion forum where we engage the audience with questions by a curator specialising in the topic of the conversation.

On 10th December, 2021, a tweetchat was organised on the topic, '**Online Safety of Girls, Women and Non-binary Folx: A Common Goal and Shared Responsibility**'. This tweetchat was conducted during the 16 days of activism. The curator was Ms. Jeevika, the National Gender Advocate for India, United Nations. This chat discussed common forms of online gender-based violence and the factors that enable such violence against women and non-binary folx. We also discussed the toxic online abuse and bullying culture on social media platforms and some coping and safety mechanisms. Statistical analysis indicates the number of tweets posted through the engagement was 496, with the potential impact value of 21,94,904. The potential reach of the tweetchat was 505,870 with 3,69,000 impressions.

Here's the recap of the Tweetchat:

<https://wakelet.com/wake/e8Rre1SHgRj3OJnk3imOS>

On 14th of January, 2022 another tweetchat was organised on the topic, '**Unsocial and Unsafe: Social Media Platforms, Policies and Gender Biases**' curated by Ms. Prapthi, a policy consultant and the founder of Policy Square. This chat discussed the virtual gated community of social media platforms, the concept of the safety paradox, underrepresentation leading to subjugation to abuse and policy interventions on national as well as local levels that can change the space for women and marginalised communities on social media platforms. Statistical analysis indicates the number of tweets posted through the engagement were 500 and counting, with the potential impact value of 20,045,539. The potential reach of the tweetchat was 459,048 with 52,000 impressions.

Here's a recap of the Tweetchat:

<https://wakelet.com/wake/wLIjPdYJOInRNqJDTIRqI>



On 25th of March, 2022 a tweetchat was organised on the topic, '**Online Misogyny and Bullying - The brand new challenge for feminists and how to go about dealing with it?**'. It was curated by Ms. Tahini Bhushan, an advocate registered at the Delhi Bar who engages in pro bono work for survivors of acid attack and domestic violence. This chat discussed the legal framework and redressal mechanism system in India, including identifying types of online harassment. Statistical analysis indicates the number of tweets posted through the engagement were 114 and counting, with the potential impact value of 5,322,000. The potential reach of the tweetchat was 250,153.

Here's a recap of the Tweetchat:

https://wakelet.com/wake/JsDPbw-w0n-jw7D_Ictii

On 29th April, 2022 a tweetchat was organised on the topic, '**Impact of Online Safety of Young Girls**'. This tweetchat was conducted by two participants of the My Digital Rights workshop, Ananya Reddy and Utsa Dey from Hyderabad and Bhubaneswar. They created the questions for the audience and engaged with the participants of the tweetchat by sharing their experience on online safety and navigating the interconnection between gender based violence in the cyber space and the physical space. The main focus was to understand how students get affected by cyber crimes and how to take action against the wrong-doers. Statistical analysis indicates the number of tweets posted through the engagement was 102, with the potential impact value of 80,90,536. The potential reach of the tweetchat was 246,274.

Here's the recap of the tweetchat:

<https://wakelet.com/wake/e8Rre1SHgRj3OJnk3imOS>.



Panel Discussion

The panel discussions were held to engage a larger audience with experts of the cyber safety world and help them understand the importance for education on digital rights and safety. We conducted 2 panel discussions.

1. Online panel discussion: On 19th February, 2022 a discussion was held with Rotary Club, Odisha to discuss gender based violence in the cyber world for girls and women. The two hour long discussion focused on ways to create safe and equal space for all on the internet, social media platforms and the concept of freedom and rights of the users and initiatives to build trust in the community with law enforcement agencies to report a cyber crime. The experts on the panel discussion were as follows -

Rtn. Santanu K. Pani, District Governor, Rotary International District

Adv. N.S. Nappinai, Supreme Court Advocate & Founder, Cyber Saathi

Adv. Namrata Chaddha, Former Member, State Commission for Women, Odisha

Ms. Iman Kalyani, Dy. Superintendent of Police, Crimes against Women

Number of people attended: 60

Link to the discussion: [Creating safe online space for women and children](#)

Key points discussed

- Power and control of social media platforms.
- Violence percolates when there is an imbalance in the power and control.
- Many girls are not allowed to use the internet after 8 pm which clearly shows lack of control and loss of opportunity for them.
- Reporting mechanism will get better if people start using the facilities that we have.
- This situation will only get better if we start reporting cyber crime more.
- The police agencies are there to help the citizens out through mutual trust.
- Rtn. Santanu requested the RDF designed handbook for the school girls in Odisha.



2. In-person panel discussion: On 20th March, 2022 a discussion took place in ISB, Hyderabad to discuss cyber safety interventions for girls and women. The hour long discussion focused on mechanisms to spread awareness amongst the youth about grooming, online human trafficking and exposure to sexual content on the internet. The experts also discussed the methods incorporated by civic societies, tech developers and law enforcement agencies to protect the online space.

The participating business students were keen on understanding gender based concepts to involve in their ventures as well. The experts for the discussion were as follows:

- Mr. Abhishek Kumar, Principal Group Manager, M365 Security & Compliance
- Mrs. Anushka Bharadwaj, Executive Director - VOICE 4 Girls & SoCh for Social Change
- Mrs. Rupali Goswami, Campaign & Communications Manager, Save the Children
- IPS Rohini Priyadarshini, Superintendent of Police, Medak District, Hyderabad

Number of people attended: 100

Key points discussed:

- Violence online is a reflection of the norms in the physical world and often the violations traverse between these two worlds.
- There is poor understanding of digital rights and digital safety.
- There is a need to introduce quality curriculum on digital safety and rights from an early age.
- There is need to build trust between the community and the police even in states where there are She Teams.
- Parents need to understand digital safety and be open to guiding their children on how to navigate online spaces safely as well as encourage them to make official complaints.
- The ecosystem - teachers, parents, police and all stakeholders - must have a responsibility in creating safe online spaces and supporting survivors to break the silence and report sexual violence.
- Technology creators must keep the user's privacy and dignity in mind when developing tech based solutions.



Report Submission by the Participants

All the participants have been requested to submit a report in the form of a photograph, a video, a creative art, a graph, a reel, anything to show how they put in use the knowledge incurred at the workshop. The aim was to start a conversation on digital rights of girls and women and speak to at least 3 people in their circle about the ways of identifying and reporting cyber crimes. Some participants are still filling in their reports.

Know Your Rights Handbook

A handbook was designed and printed in English, Hindi, Odia and Telugu for participants of the workshop. This handbook has the key elements of the workshop curriculum such as how to challenge gender based stereotypes, short case studies of online sexual harassment and sections in laws to identify them, best practice on how to use the internet, how to report cyber crime on the online complaints portal - cybercrime.gov.in and on the Safecity platform. This handbook became the reference material for most participants to revise the concepts learnt in the workshop and to spread correct information to their peers and family members.

Here is the link to the folder of the Handbooks in all four languages: **My Digital Rights Handbook**.

Media Coverage

On 2nd January, 2022 Mid-Day E-paper covered an article titled '**Women's Safety in the Phygital World**'. This article speaks about the new women's online world which promises social media platforms with safety, freedom, commerce and community.

On 31st March, 2022, Kalinga TV, Odisha's fastest growing television network covered a story titled '**Cyber Safety Workshop Organised In Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences**'



The workshop was organised for the KISS students who come from marginalised tribal families. It was an important event for them as mobile phones and the internet were recently introduced to them, its safety measures were one of the key elements the students were excited to know more about.

On 2nd April, 2022, News Meter, Nalgonda published an article titled '**How Nalgonda police with Red Dot Foundation are empowering girls, women to resolve cybercrimes on their own**'. Here is an extract from the article - "Madhulika, a fourth-year B.Tech student from Ipparthy village in Nalgonda district, sometimes receives random messages from unknown numbers on her mobile phone. She used to block these numbers immediately. But now she knows that she can file a complaint against the people sending these messages and that they are committing punishable offences under the law. Thanks to the cyber security training programme being organised by the Nalgonda police."

On 19th April, 2022 Dipti, a participant of the workshop uploaded a Vlog Video on her YouTube channel titled '**ATTENDING FIRST WORKSHOP ON CYBER SAFETY - MY DIGITAL RIGHTS. UTKAL UNIVERSITY**'. This was her effort in trying to spread awareness on cyber safety amongst her audience.

Testimonials

Ms. Radhika Sunder, Emerging Voices Coordinator (Public Engagement Unit), Public Affairs Section, Embassy of the United States of America, New Delhi -

"I have to congratulate the team on a wonderful workshop. It was great to see how engaged the students were and how much they related to the subject being discussed. Jyoti did a fabulous job building the context for the audience to understand why women and girls faced harassment both online and offline. Please do let me know whenever you hold the next set of Delhi workshops and I might ask other members of my team to attend and see it in person to understand its impact."



Ms. Poorva, PAS, New Delhi -

“Red Dot Foundation delivered an excellent series of workshops on cyber security to girls from Protsahan India Foundation. The workshops empowered participants to use social media and other digital tools safely. Using practical examples and information, the workshop provided hands-on training on identifying and reporting online harassment. The expert trainers ensured an engaging and interactive experience for each participant.”

Sai Deepthi, a participant from Vishakhapatnam -

“Thanking you for giving your valuable time to address us and spread awareness about the cyber crime happenings and also simultaneously providing information on how to address these problems. We have highly benefited by your valuable work.”

Aroh NGO, partnering NGO, Delhi -

“I would like to appreciate the team for an amazing session and sharing enlightening thoughts on gender based violence and cyber crime with our beneficiaries. The responses of the participants are very overwhelming.”

Protsahan NGO, partnering NGO, Delhi -

“The conversation on gender, sex and stereotypes was quite engaging with case studies, relatable examples, activities to simplify the conversation in a non-threatening way. It gave a platform to the girls to open up and discuss the issues they face vis-a-vis gender discrimination. The session on cyber safety also covered a lot of themes including aspects of cyber bullying, stalking, different social media platforms and ways to report cases of cyber crime.”



Thank you!

The project came to an end on 29th April, 2022. We would like to thank the U.S. Consulate General, Hyderabad and the U.S. Embassy, Delhi for the opportunity to work on this cause with girls and women in India. We would also extend our gratitude to Protsahan, Ignis Careers, BhubaneswarCity Knowledge Innovation Cluster, Soch, Aroh, ISB Hyderabad, Rotary Club Bhubaneswar Smile, Rtn. Santanu K. Pani, District Governor, Rotary International District, Adv. N.S. Nappinai, Supreme Court Advocate & Founder, Cyber Saathi, Adv. Namrata Chaddha, Former Member, State Commission for Women, Odisha, Ms. Iman Kalyani, Dy. Superintendent of Police, Crimes against Women, Mr. Abhishek Kumar, Principal Group Manager, M365 Security & Compliance, Mrs. Anushka Bharadwaj, Executive Director - VOICE 4 Girls & SoCh for Social Change, Mrs. Rupali Goswami, Campaign & Communications Manager, Save the Children, IPS Rohini Priyadarshini, Superintendent of Police, Medak District, Hyderabad, IPS Officer Rema Rajeshwari Ramaswamy, Nalgonda District, Ms. Jeevika, the National Gender Advocate for India, United Nations, Ms. Prapthi, a policy consultant and the founder of Policy Square, Ms. Tahini Bhushan, Advocate registered at the Delhi Bar, Ms. Ananya Reddy, student of Bachelors in Psychology, Economics and Political Science at St. Ann's College, Hyderabad and Ms. Utsa Dey, student of MSc Applied Microbiology at KIIT, Bhubaneswar.

You can check out our advocacy video [here](#).

