

**REPORT ON WORKSHOP FOR POCSO AND CYBERCRIME
(VENUE : COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE – ZONE II)**

Date – 23.8.2022 Venue – Nehru Memorial Hall

The workshop was an initiative by the Pune city police (Zone -2), Lashkar Police station, to create awareness about the POCSO act and Cyber Crime. It was attended by Heads, Teachers and Students of various schools. Mr. Amitabh Gupta, Commissioner of Police, Pune, headed the interaction.

The stress was on the safety of all children especially during their travel to and from school and the dangers that they are exposed to especially in the form of abuse, physical or cyber frauds.

Officers from the Dept of Education, R.T.O, and Police and Professionals from Legal dept. addressed this gathering.

The workshop began with a session on detailed information on what can be dealt with by legal action under the POCSO act. The speaker encouraged people, especially teachers/parents to look out for behavioural changes in their students and make children aware of what kind of behaviour is “unacceptable” and should be reported as the perpetrator is punishable by law. The different types of sexual offences along with their punishments under different sections were clearly explained.



This was followed by a briefing on Cybercrime which highlighted the dangers we expose ourselves to, by divulging private information on social networking sites. Many examples were shared and pointers given as to how we can avoid becoming prey to “hackers”. If a cybercrime is reported within 2 hours there is good chance of recovery especially in financial fraud, (Golden hour). Clicking on unknown websites is a strict “no no”.

Ms. Caroline Audoir de Valter, founder CEO of Hope for the children foundation spoke about their role in creating "Child friendly" police stations, Lashkar Police station being the 1st in this initiative.

Officers from the R.T.O stressed on the need to have all documents updated for school buses, regular meetings of Transport committee, following all norms laid down for operating school buses.

Commissioner of Police, Pune City, Mr. Amitabh Gupta answered questions from the audience pertaining to various issues faced by students, teachers and schools. He stressed on "percolating" the information shared by experts in this workshop to a larger audience in the respective schools which will help in reducing these incidents by generating awareness of the legal action that can be initiated.

This interaction is a positive step in working together to give our children a safe and protected environment.



Mr. Ramesh Bendre

Mrs. Usha Choudhury