NIC Uttar Pradesh Conducts Safer Internet Day 2026 Workshop at National PG College, Lucknow on 10 February 2026

On the occasion of Safer Internet Day 2026, a campaign being led by the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)** under the ISEA Project, National Informatics Centre (NIC), Uttar Pradesh conducted a workshop on **"Smart Tech, Safe Choices: Exploring the Safe and Responsible Use of AI"** on **10 February 2026** at **National PG College, Lucknow,** with the participation of **211 college students.** The workshop was graced by **Shri Ashesh Kumar Agarwal, Deputy Director General** & **State Informatics Officer, NIC** Uttar Pradesh; **Shri Ajai Gopal Bhartariya, DDG & ASIO (State),** NIC Uttar Pradesh; **Prof. Devendra Kr Singh, Principal,** National PG College; and **Dr. Amitabha Yadav, HoD (Software)**, National PG College, and featured technical sessions by **Shri Shailesh Srivastava, Senior Director (IT); Shri Vinay Dikshit, Director (IT)** & Officer-in-Charge, RASA Lucknow; and **Miss Aparna Khare, Joint Director (IT)**, NIC.

The programme commenced with the **lighting of the inaugural lamp**, followed by an address from Prof. Devendra Kr Singh, who highlighted the urgency of making informed and safer choices while using Artificial Intelligence. **Shri Ajai Gopal Bhartariya spoke** on **emerging cyber frauds** such as digital arrest scams, explaining how cybercriminals exploit human psychology, trust, and behavioural patterns, and emphasized the need for controlled access to mobile applications.

Shri Ashesh Kumar Agarwal, DDG & SIO, NIC Uttar Pradesh, addressed students on **technology perception and digital trust,** explaining how misuse of personal data enables cyber frauds. He encouraged students to act as **cyber safety ambassadors** and highlighted the national awareness portal **Stay Safe Online** (www.staysafeonline.in) as a key learning resource.

The technical sessions began with **Shri Shailesh Srivastava, Senior Director (IT), NIC,** who outlined the national campaign **"Stay Alert in the Age of AI: Safe and Responsible Use of AI"** on this Safer Internet Day. His session focused on safe and responsible use of the Internet and AI, cyber hygiene, common AI-enabled cyber threats, and cybercrime reporting mechanisms including helpline 1930.

Shri Vinay Dikshit, Director (IT), delivered a session on Digital Trust and Social Engineering, covering cyber forgery, manipulation techniques, and trust exploitation. The was followed by an engaging session by **Miss Aparna Khare,** Joint Director (IT), on the **safe and responsible use of AI**, with a focus on **digital hygiene, deepfake risks, consent, and the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023.**

The workshop concluded with all participating students collectively taking the **Pledge for Safe and Responsible Use of AI,** reaffirming their commitment to ethical, secure, and responsible digital behavior. This was followed by a **vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Amitabha Yadav,** who acknowledged the valuable insights shared by the speakers, expressed gratitude for the expertise shared and appreciated the active participation of students. The programme formally concluded with the **National Anthem.**

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