New Delhi,
May 17, 2017

**States want greater awareness created on Cyber Crime against Children**

Representatives from various States/UTs Police Organizations today urged for greater awareness among children and parents about cyber crimes against children. They also expressed concern about the increasing Cyber Crimes against children and suggested that the provisions of the Information Technology Act should be popularized. The concerns were expressed at a meeting on “Issues and Challenges of Child Online Safety”.

Speaking on issues related to Cyber Crime against Children including child pornography, cyber grooming and cyber stalking, eminent Cyber Security Expert, Shri Pawan Duggal emphasized the need of strengthening Information Technology Act while clarifying various legal issues raised by the participants. Eminent Advocate, Ms. Aparna Bhat who also addressed the participants was of the view that Child Sexual Abuse is a ‘gigantic problem’ and no Internet Service Provider (ISP) should assist “Dark Web” (the part of the World Wide Web that is only accessible by means of special software, allowing users and website operators to remain anonymous or untraceable. The Dark Web poses new and formidable challenges for law enforcement agencies around the world). She also noted that FIR can be lodged against ISPs for not reporting cases.

Members of NCPCR, Shri Yashwant Jain, Shrimati Rupa Kapoor and Member Secretary Geeta Narayan asked the participants to share their experiences and best practices as well as deliberate on psychological and rehabilitation needs of such victims, developing tools on proper counseling of victims/survivors.

The meeting which was organised by National Commission for Protection of Child Rights was attended by representatives from various State Police Forces, Ministry of Home Affairs, NCPCR and Cyber Peace Foundation.

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