## Media Coordinator's Office Jamia Millia Islamia

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Press Release/Invite

## Smart phones and Social Media can be new tools of cyber crimes against women: Senior Lawyer, Pavan Duggal at Jamia Millia Islamia

Advising women to use their smart phones, internet and other such platforms with utmost care and not divulge their personal details on them, senior Supreme Court lawyer, Pavan Duggal, who specialises in the field of Cyberlaw, today said all such tools might be used to harass them by unscrupulous elements.

Speaking at a workshop on 'Cyber Crimes against women: Challenges posed by the Social Networking' organised by the Faculty of Law, Jamia Millia Islamia in the university campus here, he specifically addressed women students and said cyber bullying in educational institutions has become a big problem and as of now there is no dedicated legislation to deal with it.

Pro-Vice Chancellor, Prof Shahid Ashraf, who presided over the function, said violence against women and girls through cyber space is emerging as a global problem with serious implications for societies and economies around the world.

Suggesting that Smart Phones, which Duggal described as "sitting bombs", should be used only as a phone and not as a camera and should not be synced with Cloud, Duggal said that WhatsApp, Facebook, Twitter, internet and other social networking sites have become a convenient tool to target women.

Referring to increasing number of cyber crimes against women by hacking their account thus causing harassment, anxiety and agony to them, he said that they have to protect themselves by not divulging too much of their personnel details.

He also said that women should be studiously careful of their surroundings particularly their place of work as there had been instances of spy camera being used to film them. "Your security is in your hands," he said.

Prof Ashraf said violence against women and girls knows no boundaries, cutting across borders, race, culture and income groups, profoundly harming victims, people around them and the society as a whole.

The growing reach of internet, the rapid spread of mobile information and communication technologies and the wide diffusion of social media have presented new opportunities and enabled various efforts to address violence against women and girls, he said.

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