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# Cyber Crime against school children: Challenges & Solutions

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**Abstract**
The development of internet nowadays does not only give a positive impact but also gives a negative impact in the form of Cyber Crime. Children are the most vulnerable sections of society and are easily exploited in the cyber world due to lack of maturity level and heavily rely on networking sites for social interaction. It is important protect children from online threats because a constructive and positive development of school children is the collective responsibility of society. The purpose of this paper is to understand the basic concept of the cybercrime and its present scenario in India. This study also aims to focus challenge related to cybercrime against school children and point out the solution to prevent children from cybercrime. The secondary data has been collected. For this purpose, various magazines and journals have been used. Schools across seven states in India indicate that 30 percent of Indian children accessing Internet have experienced some kind of cyber harm. Cybercrime affect the present and also future of school children. It is crucial not only to school children's well-being, but also to future of our national because children are pillar of our nation. The main solution to Stop Cybercrime are use precautions, use Anti Malicious Software, take proper & necessary steps to prevent cyberspace, don't trust on any websites, proper guidance must be done about cybercrime and if the situation out of control of cybercrime then children should FIR in police station. From this paper, we can understand that children as well as their parents, their schools and government also play an important role to protect the children from cybercrime.

**Keywords:** Cyber Crime, school children, role of parents, role of government

## Introduction
The development of internet nowadays does not only give a positive impact but also gives a negative impact in the form of Cyber crime. Cyber crimes are any crimes that involve a computer and a network. In some cases, the computer may have been used in order to commit the crime, and in other cases, the computer may have been the target of the crime. Children are the most vulnerable sections of society and are easily exploited in the cyber world due to lack of maturity level and heavily rely on networking sites for social interaction. Children often unknowingly or deliberately share personal information without realizing that by just forwarding this message they can be made to suffer penal charges. Facebook photographs, WhatsApp messages are uploaded and shared by children without knowing the gravity of things and the impact that will it have on their future. Cybercrime affect overall development of Children. We all understand the need of protecting children in the real world but it is equally important for all parents and elders to protect their children from online threats. Parents can play an important role in protecting children against Cyber crime. It is high time for parents and elders to take an active role in sharing with kids about the use and abuse of cyber.

## 2. Objective of this study
The purpose of this paper is to understand the basic concept of the cybercrime and its present scenario in India. This study also aims to focus challenge related to cybercrime against school Children and point out the solution to prevent Children from Cybercrime.

## 3. Data collection:
The secondary data has been collected. For this purpose, various magazines and journals have been used.

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Thus, the focus is to know more about the concept, its challenges and solutions. Therefore, qualitative and quantitative data have been used.

## 4. Present trends of Cybercrime: India becoming hub for cyber crime

In 2013, a total of 28,481 Indian websites were hacked by various hacker groups spread across the globe. The numbers of hacking incidents were 27,605 in 2012 and 21,699 in 2011. As per the cyber-crime data maintained by National Cyber Records Bureau, a total of 1,791, 2,876 and 4,356 cases were registered under the Information Technology Act in 2011, 2012 and 2013, respectively. A total of 422, 601 and 1,337 cases were registered under cyber-crime related sections of the Indian Penal Code in 2011, 2012 and 2013, respectively. There has been an annual increase of more than 40 per cent in cyber-crime cases registered in the country during the past two-three years. As per the cyber-crime data maintained by National Cyber Records Bureau, by only Table 9.1 Cybercrimes (State/UT-wise) in 2017 total cases 21796, in 2018 total cases 27748 and in 2019 total cases 44546 were reported.

"A survey done by Uninor in schools across seven states in India indicates that 30 per cent of Indian children accessing Internet have experienced some kind of cyber harm. This includes cyber bullying, cyber stalking, hacking and defamation," the Uninorreport said.

## 5. Consequences of Cybercrime against school children

It is cleared from the previous studies and records that with the increment in technology cybercrimes increases. Due to the continuous rise in cybercrimes students are becoming increasingly vulnerable. They are not sensitized about the various risks of surfing the net and hence end up becoming victims of cybercrime. It is also seen that children are adopting computers much earlier, putting them at risk at a young age and hence they do not understand that some of the activities they indulge in are unsafe and sometimes even illegal. Cybercrime affect the present and also future of school children. Due to cyber bullying children feel depress and shy nature that's why they are not able to get socialize with society and peer group. Cyber crime is the one of the main reason of the motivation that affects the grade of the children and finally cause school dropouts. Cyber crime increase the rate of fear, Harassment, violence in school children. There are many types of cybercrime which have great impact on overall development and productivity of school going

children. Most common types of cybercrime are Hacking, Theft, Cyber stalking, Malicious Software, Child soliciting and Abuse, Phishing.

## 6. Possible Solution to protect children from cybercrime-
Here is some sub points of solution for precaution and prevention to protect school children from cybercrime.

## 6.1. Precautions to be taken on social networking sites
Social networking sites are proved to be a great tool of sharing information but children need to follow some precaution while using them:
- Personal information should be posted to a limited extent
- Use password that are not common for example use alphabets along with numerals
- Don't post any personal information about friends and family members
- Install and upgrade an anti-virus software regularly

## 6.2. Tips for parents to prevent children from cyber abuse
- Place the computer in living room rather in child's bedroom and always be vigilant and see what children are doing online
- Use Parental Control Software. It filters the contents that can be viewed online and can restrict download of applications that parent don't want to be viewed by their children.
- Parents can restrict usage time of internet i.e. the number of hours internet can be accessed
- Make sure children do not post personal details like their contact numbers, address, photographs, school address etc.
- Discuss the risks with children and tell them ways to be safe online and Help child feel comfortable talking about any incidence of cyber abuse and make them aware about reporting the matter to cybercrime police stations from where the offender can be nabbed.

## 6.3. School Responsibility
- Principals and teachers have a duty of care to take reasonable steps to protect students from any harm.
- Start awareness programs in schools to educate students and parents about increasing cybercrimes and ways to avoid being victims.

## 6.4. INSAFE: Tips for children awareness

**I**
**Identity**
- Always remeber to maintain a positive online identity and protect personal information
- Make sure you have a good online reputation

**N**
**new opportunities**
- The online world is full of them , communicwtion learning collaboration , the possibilities are endless
- Remeber to enhance them but think criticaly

**S**
**SAFE**
- Online personal safety is just as important as online safety '
- Always remeber to think before  past and speak to a trusted friend if something is bothering you.

**A**
**Advice**
- Advice is available  from many places and if something goes wrong online children can get help
- http//www.saferinternet .org/web/guest/helpline

**F**
**Fraud**
- Be wary of emails promising something that sounds too good to be true and take care not to respond to spam or phishing messages
- Protect your personal information

**E**
**e-learning**
- The internet offers so many possibilities , not only forentertainment and communication ,but aso for learning and education
- Check it out ,dont wastr these great oppurtunities for life long learning .

## 6.5. Complain file against Cybercrime
- Children and their parents must contact local police station to register a cybercrime complaint with complete details of the offence and documents i.e. screen shots, e-mail address and details of the suspects.
- Children and their parents can also complaint to the in charge of cyber cell police station which is almost in every city.

## 6.6. Law against Cyber Crime in India
- Punishable under the relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 (as amended by the Information Technology Act, 2000).
- The misuse of information technology has also given birth to an array of new crimes (for example: hacking, introduction of computer viruses, tampering with source code etc.) that are specifically addressed by the Information Technology Act, 2000 (IT Act).
- The recently enacted Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (The POCSO Act).

## 6.7. Role of government
- Minimize damage and recovery time from cyber-attacks!
- Reduce national vulnerability to cyber-attacks!
- Actions to secure cyber space include! Forensics and attack attribution!
- Protection of networks and systems critical to national security!
- Early watch and warnings!
- Research and technology development that will enable the critical infrastructure organizations to secure IT assets.

## 7. Conclusion and recommendation
It is cleared from the previous studies and records that with the increment in technology cybercrimes increases. Due to the continuous rise in cybercrimes students are becoming increasingly vulnerable. Schools across seven states in India indicate that 30 percent of Indian children accessing Internet have experienced some kind of cyber harm. Cybercrime affect the present and also future of school children. Due to cyber bullying children feel depress and shy nature that's why they are not able to get socialize with society and peer group. Cyber crime is the one of the main reason of the motivation that affects the grade of the children and finally cause school dropouts. Cyber crime increase the rate of fear, Harassment, violence in school children. It is crucial not only to school children's well-being, but also to future of our national because children are pillar of our nation. There will always be new and unexpected challenges to stay ahead of cyber criminals and cyber terrorists but we can win only through partnership and collaboration of both individuals and government. By studying past incidents, we can learn from them and use that information to prevent future crime. There is much we can do to ensure a safe, secure and trustworthy computing environment. School children who are facing cyber crime should inform their guardian, teacher and the higher authority so that problem of cyber crime can be resolve. The main solution to Stop Cybercrime are use precautions, use Anti Malicious Software, don't trust on any websites, proper guidance must be done about Cybercrime and if the situation out of control of cybercrime then we should FIR in police station. It is important protect children from online threats because a constructive and positive development of school children is the collective responsibility of society. From this paper, we can understand that children as well as their parents, their schools and government also play an important role to protect the children from cybercrime.

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