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## **Child Commission Chief Stuti Kacker expresses concern over cyber crimes against children**

The Chairperson of National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), Ms. Stuti Kacker has expressed grave concern about growing incidents of cyber crime against children in the country. Addressing a technical session on *key partnerships to secure safe digital spaces for children in India* organised by UNICEF in New Delhi recently she said, cyber crime has emerged as a serious threat to children's well being and holistic development. Ms. Kacker said that more than one third of the country's population is below 18 years which needs to be protected from crimes like cyber bullying, cyber stalking, pornography, paedophilia and other forms of cyber crimes.

The Chairperson said that NCPCR has recently launched an online user-friendly complaint management system called POCSO e-box for children to directly report sexual abuse. The e-box is available on the webpage of the Commission, [www.ncpcr.gov.in](http://www.ncpcr.gov.in)

The technical session was organised as part of the release of UNICEF's publication '*Child Online Protection in India*'

In India about 134 million children have access to mobile phones and the number is growing very fast. Most of these phones are estimated to be smart phones and with mobile data and broadband expansion children have faster access to internet. While this provides opportunities for accessing useful material for learning purposes, lack of digital literacy and online safety measures exposes children to hazards of cyber crime.

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