

## **Report: Awareness Programme on “Perils of Social Media”**

**Date: 09-March-2021**

**Venue: Auditorium, St. Edmund’s College, Shillong**

**Audience: Faculty and students of St. Edmund’s College, Shillong**

The Department of Computer Science conducted an awareness programme titled “The Perils of Social Media” on 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2021, under DBT Star College Scheme. The talk was delivered by Shri. Banraplang Jyrwa, MPS, Dy.SP (City), East Khasi Hills.

It was attended by faculty and students of the college from all streams, namely, B.A., B.Sc., B.Com, BSW, B.C.A. and M.S.W., with a total of 85 participants. Due to strict adherence of (COVID) protocol, we had to limit the number of participants.

The program began with a welcome address from Dr. S. Nagi (HOD, Computer Science), followed by a speech from the Principal. The resource person was then felicitated and introduced to the audience.

The awareness program began with a discussion on the different techniques used by fraudsters to get personal and financial information from unsuspecting users. It was made known that a good number of people fall prey to such malicious activities. The talk then moved on to how social media is used negatively especially by young adults with rampant cases of cyber bullying through the posting of false, demeaning and objectionable material. The resource person also highlighted the frequent propagation of fake news that consequentially has a detrimental effect on society. He also shared some guidelines on how one should behave on social media.

After the talk was completed, the resource person took questions from the participants. A number of questions were asked which made this section of the program very engaging. Questions on the legality and veracity of social media posts, meme culture, data policies were discussed and deliberated. The resource person was able to effectively answer all the queries.

Br. Simon Coelho, IQAC Coordinator, then made the concluding remarks. With social media being a constant buzzword, he appreciated the organisation of the awareness programme on such a topical subject. The programme came to an end with Prof. P. Thapa delivering the vote of thanks.

