

MEDIA RELEASE

Reliance Foundation and C-DAC under Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, (MeitY) GoI, launch e-SafeHER – a Cyber Security Awareness Training Programme to enable one million Cyber Sakhis across rural India

- Leverages the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology's (MeitY) Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA) Programme
- C-DAC, Hyderabad and Reliance Foundation will jointly deliver Cyber Security Awareness Training to empower Cyber Sakhis across rural India
- e-SafeHER aims to build a gender-responsive, community-led model for cyber-safe digital inclusion reaching one million women across India over three years.

New Delhi, April 13, 2026: Reliance Foundation and C-DAC, Hyderabad, a scientific society under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India (GoI), today announced the launch of e-SafeHER, a Cyber Security Awareness Training programme to enable one million women across rural India, to safely and confidently participate in the digital ecosystem.

This initiative is anchored under MeitY's Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA) programme through C-DAC Hyderabad, enabling content and training material for dissemination. Reliance Foundation will catalyse dissemination in rural communities across India, working in particular through women's Self-Help Groups (SHGs). This initiative is another step forward in Reliance Foundation's work to strengthen digital inclusion for women. e-SafeHER aims to strengthen last mile cybersecurity awareness – particularly among women in rural India, who are increasingly engaging with digital platforms for financial transactions, livelihoods, and access to essential services.

The strategic collaboration between C-DAC, Hyderabad, and Reliance Foundation on cybersecurity awareness involves structured training and community-based interventions. Speaking on the launch of the initiative, **Shri S Krishnan, IAS., Secretary MeitY**, said, *"In an era where the Government of India is pushing for capacity, collaboration and resilience to ensure that we reach across the length and breadth of the country towards a Cyber Secure Bharat, e-SafeHER is an exciting opportunity where we will bring together the curriculum and knowledge of the MeitY's Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA) programme. Through C-DAC working together with Reliance Foundation, this initiative will enable women from the remotest rural regions to be safe, seen and empowered. We look forward to a model initiative that can be replicated and scaled up with like-minded partners across the country."*

Ms Isha Ambani, Director, Reliance Foundation, said, *"Rural women in India are coming online faster than ever. Reliance Foundation is committed to not just accelerating women's digital inclusion but also to equipping them with the knowledge and skills to stay safe. We are pleased to partner with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), GoI and C-DAC to provide cyber security awareness training through 'e-SafeHER' which aims to enable women to build the skills and knowledge to stay safe online, as they utilise the power of digital to strengthen their lives and livelihoods. Through this initiative we aim to empower one million Cyber Sakhis in rural India over the next three years, helping them build safe online practices so they embrace the digital world with confidence."*

C-DAC will lead the development, localization, and continuous enhancement of cybersecurity training content under the ISEA Project, including multilingual adaptation. Reliance Foundation will leverage its extensive grassroots presence and women's empowerment platforms across rural India, for delivery through a peer-led, community-based model.

In a phased approach, beginning with training of Cyber Sakhis across Madhya Pradesh, and Odisha, the initiative will scale to one million women by 2029 through multi-stakeholder partnerships. Designed for scale and sustainability, cybersecurity awareness is embedded into existing women's empowerment and digital literacy programmes, ensuring continuity without parallel infrastructure. Localized content, audio-visual modules, and blended learning approaches will enhance accessibility and engagement. e-safeHER will drive measurable behavioural outcomes, including improved cyber risks awareness, increased confidence in digital transactions, and adoption of safe digital practices by participants. Insights from implementation will contribute to evidence-based scale-up and policy integration across the country.

Reliance Foundation is committed to empower women across India to achieve their potential and create transformational change with wide ranging women empowerment initiatives including leadership capacity building, strengthening women's entrepreneurship, digital literacy, employment and skills development, improving women's health and enhancing women's opportunities in education, sports and arts. e-SafeHER builds on this on-ground work creating a woman-centric safety net to enable greater confidence in digital skills for women across India's rural hinterlands.

By combining MeitY's national cybersecurity framework, C-DAC's technical expertise, and Reliance Foundation's community-driven delivery model, e-SafeHER seeks to ensure that women across rural India are not only digitally included, but also digitally secure.

About MeitY

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India, is responsible for policy formulation and implementation in the areas of electronics, IT, and digital technologies. Through initiatives such as the Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA) Program, MeitY is strengthening cybersecurity education, awareness and capacity building across the country.

About C-DAC

The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) is an autonomous scientific society under MeitY, Government of India. It plays a key role in research, development, and deployment of advanced computing and cybersecurity solutions, including implementation of national programs such as ISEA.

About Reliance Foundation

Reliance Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Reliance Industries Limited, aims to play a catalytic role in addressing India's development challenges through innovative and sustainable solutions. Led by Smt. Nita M Ambani, Founder and Chairperson, Reliance Foundation is relentlessly working for the overall well-being and enhanced quality of life for all, focusing on rural transformation, education, health, sports for development, disaster management, women empowerment, urban renewal and arts, culture and heritage, and has touched the lives of over 88 million people across India, in over 91,500 villages and urban locations. More on www.reliancefoundation.org



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