



Background

Safer Internet Day is celebrated globally in February each year to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people and inspire a national conversation.

Globally, this day is celebrated in more than 170 countries, coordinated by the joint Insafe/INHOPE network, with the support of the European Commission, and national Safer Internet Centres. In Nepal, ChildSafeNet started the celebration of the Safer Internet Day in Nepal in 2019 as the focal organization and the national secretariat of the Safer Internet Day.

The day offers the opportunity to highlight the positive uses of technology and to explore the role we all play in helping to create a better and safer online community. It calls upon young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, and policymakers, to join together in helping to create a better internet. Get involved to play your part!

Why Do We Need to Protect Children and Young People Online?

In this digital age, the information and communication technology sector is advancing tremendously. Along with the fast progress, this revolution brings with it numerous adversities and dangers. Children and young people are heavy users of the technology. Unsafe use of digital technology exposes them to serious harm, such as online sexual abuse & exploitation, cyberbullying, phishing and sextortion. Such harms affect children's mental and cognitive development, humiliate and lower their self-esteem. Children, young people, parents, teachers and governments need to take cyber safety seriously and fulfil their responsibilities in making the internet a safer place.

Since cyber safety is an issue relevant to all internet users, we all have responsibilities to make the internet safer for our children and young people. Let us work **Together for a Better Internet**.

Objectives of the Safer Internet Day

1. To highlight and promote positive uses of the internet and to explore the role we all play in creating a better and safer internet
2. To raise awareness of online risks for children and young people and protect them

3. Develop synergy among organizations and institutions working with and for children
4. To call upon young people, parents, caregivers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers, and wider, to join together in helping to create a better internet

Proposed Activities in Nepal

ChildSafeNet has planned the following activities to observe the Safer Internet Day 2024 in Nepal.

1. Child online safety awareness-raising through social media
2. Produce and air live radio sessions on the protection of children online from sexual abuse and exploitation
3. Produce and disseminate podcasts on online safety for children
4. Conduct interaction sessions with parents on parenting in the digital age
5. Produce appeal videos in collaboration with influencers and public figures
6. Produce and disseminate short informational videos. The videos will include simple tips different stakeholder groups can use to make the internet safer for themselves and others.
7. Organise panel discussions with influencers, social activists, journalists and organisations
8. Organise panel discussions with parents and children, aimed at understanding the views of parents and children, and the roles they play in ensuring online safety
9. Conduct workshops with young people, aimed at understanding the perceptions of young people towards online-based violence and young people's ability to effectively exercise their digital rights
10. Conduct online safety training for school and college students
11. Conduct Inter-School Elocution Competitions on the positive and safer use of the internet
12. Partner with Internet Service Providers, tech companies, fintech companies and other private sector leaders to include online safety as part of their corporate social responsibility programme

When?

Although 6 February 2024 will be the main day for celebration, Safer Internet Day 2024 activities will be conducted throughout the year.

Where?

Online child safety programmes will be conducted nationwide, reaching children, young people, parents as well as stakeholders and duty bearers, mostly through online, electronic and print media. Schools and colleges are expected to conduct online awareness sessions throughout the country. ChildSafeNet and partner organisations will provide technical resources to conduct awareness activities.

How You Can Get Involved

We would like to invite children, young people, parents, schools, colleges, government, police, law practitioners, private sector, Internet Service Providers (ISPs), international/national organizations, media, celebrities as well as other duty bearers to get involved in the celebration of the Safer Internet Day 2024.

You may organize awareness-raising activities, such as group discussions, training sessions, fun fairs, media activities, quizzes, etc.

Government, police and law practitioners may use Safer Internet Day 2024 as an opportunity to reinforce the implementation of cyber safety policy and enhance legal protection.

The private sector, including ISPs, could get involved by provision of service and funding.

National and international organisations are requested to provide technical and financial support as well as integrate cyber safety awareness in their projects.

We request the support of media and celebrities for the promotion of Safer Internet Day and the dissemination of online safety messages.

Besides, please feel free to come up with other ideas to promote a safer and better internet.

About ChildSafeNet: ChildSafeNet is a non-governmental organisation, working to make digital technology safer for children and young people. We work to raise awareness on safer use of the internet and digital devices to protect children and young people from Internet addiction, online sexual abuse and exploitation, cyber-bullying, phishing, gaming addiction and to promote digital literacy. We work in partnership with children's and young people's groups, parents, schools, government, media, private sector and organizations.

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