

## News

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### Cybercrimes harm people emotionally and financially: CJI Surya Kant.



*The CJI emphasized that as cybercrimes are a fundamental obstacle to justice, they should not be seen as a specialized technical problem.*

Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant stated on Friday that technological vulnerability in the digital age must be viewed as a disability that can prevent persons from accessing the legal system.

He pointed out that, particularly for vulnerable populations, cyber fraud frequently results in multi-layered injury, including emotional harm.

***"The harm is not just monetary when an older person loses all of their funds due to an impersonation scam. It's sentimental. It is communal. He said, "It's institutional."***

Citing the Constitution's Article 39A, CJI Kant stated:

***We are required by Article 39A to make sure that no one is denied justice because of their financial situation or any other disability. We must be sincere enough to acknowledge that technology vulnerability is a barrier to access in the digital age.***

At the Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority's three-day national conference on cyber safety, which was held at the Rajasthan International Centre in Jaipur, the CJI was giving the keynote presentation.

He cautioned that the exclusion is already occurring in practice.

***"A citizen is effectively excluded from justice if they are unable to use reporting portals, are unable to discern between a genuine notice and a phony summons, or are intimidated by the language of cyber procedures," he stated.***

The CJI emphasized that as cybercrimes are a fundamental obstacle to justice, they should not be seen as a specialized technical problem.

***Additionally, he relied on National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data.***

86,420 cybercrime instances were reported in India, a 31% increase from 2022. Over the past five years, there have been around 65.9 lakh complaints of cyber-fraud, with losses estimated to be ₹55,659 crore.

***The Chief Justice urged institutional vigilance and ethical moderation regarding the role of technology and artificial intelligence.***

Additionally, he warned that the bigger struggle is about institutional credibility rather than individual losses.

***"Trust in the judiciary itself is at risk in the fight against cybercrimes. The***

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***CJI cautioned, "Truth itself becomes contested when manipulated images and fabricated voices circulate freely."***

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