

Event to raise awareness about cyber crimes in December

ADITI RAO

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FOLLOWING INITIATIVES like Buddy Cop and the City Safe app, the Pune City Police have organised "Cy-Fi Karandak 2017," a festival of one-act plays to create awareness about cyber-security, organised in association with the Quick Heal Foundation and Expressions Lab, a theatre organisation.

The finals of the competition are to be held in Pune from December 21 to 25, at Bharat Natya Mandir. Over 100 teams from Pune, Mumbai, Goa, Aurangabad, Nashik and Kolhapur have applied, of which the 28 finalists will now compete on the theme "Human Life in the Cyberworld – How Convenient, How Vulnerable?" for cash prizes and the Karandak trophy.

For teams outside Maharashtra, an online Karandak was launched, wherein teams submitted videos of their plays via social media; the finals of which will also be held in December.

"The amount of Cyber Crimes reported in Pune is surprisingly high- even higher than that of Delhi and NCR," said Senior Police Inspector Radhika Phadke. "We need this kind of a platform to create awareness about the psychological and emotional consequences of these crimes. Especially in cases of matrimony fraud, the victim suffers extreme emotional distress. Through theatre, we can convey the human side of it," she added.

"Cyber-crime would account for nearly 80 per cent of all crimes in coming years," said assistant commissioner of police Milind Patil.