



“From Cyber Safety to Social Impact: Dr. D. Y. Patil College & Quick Heal Foundation’s Rural Impact Activity in Nigde”

Quick Heal Foundation Cyber Warriors Club of Dr. D. Y. Patil Arts, Commerce & Science College, Pimpri conducts a rural cyber-awareness initiative Nigde, August 21: With the aim of protecting rural farmers and citizens from increasing cyber fraud while addressing their social and healthcare needs, the Quick Heal Foundation Cyber Warriors Club of Dr. D. Y. Patil Arts, Commerce & Science College, Pimpri, in association with Quick Heal Foundation, conducted a ‘Rural Impact Activity’ at Nigde, Maval. The initiative was organised under the motto “Cyber Shiksha for Cyber Suraksha” and this year’s theme “My Data, My Responsibility.”

Following discussions with Principal Dr. Ranjit Patil, students carrying cyber-safety awareness into rural communities were given the identity ‘CyberDoot’ (Cyber Ambassadors). The initiative focuses particularly on farmers and their families, who are increasingly exposed to fraud related to KYC, OTPs, bank accounts, suspicious links and fake government-scheme communications. Citizens were guided on recognising such frauds, while Anganwadi workers involved in PM-KISAN-related processes were trained on KYC, OTP, suspicious calls and links so that they could protect themselves and guide citizens effectively.

A cyber-awareness rally was conducted through the village, with slogans highlighting OTP, UPI and KYC fraud. The Cyber Warriors also interacted directly with villagers to understand their digital difficulties and provide guidance on responding to suspicious transactions and fraud. At the Zilla Parishad Primary School, Nigde, a cyber-safety skit was presented to students to encourage safe and responsible digital practices from an early age. During this interaction, the team learned that a girl from the village walked nearly 4 km every day to attend school. Recognising her need, the Cyber Warriors Club decided to provide her with a bicycle, demonstrating that the initiative goes beyond awareness to addressing real community needs. Considering Nigde’s predominantly Adivasi and farmer-based population, a general health and eye check-up camp was organised for villagers. The team also took responsibility for the cataract surgery expenses of a senior citizen. School uniforms were distributed to rural students, with sponsorship support from Cyber Samachar Pvt. Ltd. The initiative received the special presence of Zilla Parishad Member, Nigde, Maval, Mrs. Pallavi Dabhade, along with the support of Sarpanch Mr. Bhikaji Bhagwat, Deputy Sarpanch Mr. Ganesh Bhangare, Principal Mrs. Shivde of Zilla Parishad School, Nigde, ICDS Supervisor Mrs. Asha Kunjir, and Cyber Warriors Club Coordinator Prof. Satyawan Kunjir. The school Principal, teachers and villagers appreciated the initiative and expressed their wish that the Cyber Warriors return to the village and conduct such activities on a larger scale. Their enthusiastic response reflected the impact and trust created by the initiative at the grassroots level.

The initiative continues under the leadership of Mrs. Anupama Katkar, President, Quick Heal Foundation, and the guidance of Mr. Ajay Shirke, Associate Director, Quick Heal Foundation, with the support of DR. D. Y. PATIL, ACS College’s Dr. P. D. Patil, Chairman; Mr. Somnath Patil, Secretary; Dr. Ranjit Patil, Principal; and Prof. Satyawan Kunjir, Teacher Coordinator, Cyber Warriors Club.

Rural Impact Activity represents the Cyber Warriors Club and Quick Heal Foundation’s effort to connect cyber safety with the real needs of rural communities. By reaching those who need awareness the most and extending support wherever genuine needs are identified, the initiative reflects a commitment to social responsibility.

