‘Role of Technology in Reuniting Missing Children & Trafficked Persons’

Context

A one-day Workshop on ‘Role of Technology in Reuniting Missing Children & Trafficked Persons’ was jointly organised by National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, in collaboration with Indian Police Foundation.

About the workshop

The workshop deliberated on the use of biometrics by law enforcement agencies for the identification of persons.

Use of biometrics is not a new practice in law enforcement; however, it was not as technologically advanced as present-day applications. Rise of computing and electronics have greatly assisted biometric applications to become faster, more secure and accurate.

Use of biometrics has become a necessity in today’s complex world.

It was emphasized that with the use of biometrics, law enforcement agencies can also locate large number of persons, especially children who are reported missing.

Similarly, unidentified found persons and unidentified dead bodies can also be matched using biometrics with the existing records of missing persons and unidentified found persons.

In a large population, it is the only mechanism to provide an accurate match and help people in reuniting with their families.

Use of facial recognition technology for various applications, stressing upon the importance of identifying tools which would greatly facilitate the investigation of crime and detection of criminals and provide information for reuniting missing children and trafficked persons.

NCRB clarified the doubts related to security breach, reliability and privacy of individuals while implementing AFRS (Automated Facial Recognition System). AFRS of NCRB will not work on public databases.

AFRS results will be further corroborated and analysed by collecting other evidences by Investigation Officer before drawing any conclusions. AFRS will not source facial images from CCTV cameras in public places, unless the video footage is part of the scene of crime.