# UNIT – II

# Dark Side of Social Media

## 2.1 Cybercrime

Cybercrime refers to illegal activities performed using computers, networks, or the internet.

### Types of Cybercrime

- Hacking
- Identity theft
- Online fraud
- Malware attacks
- Financial scams

### Effects of Cybercrime

- Financial loss
- Data theft
- Reputation damage
- Privacy violation

### Prevention

- Use antivirus software
- Strong passwords
- Avoid suspicious websites
- Keep software updated

## 2.2 Social Engineering

Social engineering is the manipulation of people to gain confidential information.

### Techniques

- Pretending to be a trusted person
- Emotional manipulation
- Fake emails and messages

### Examples

- Bank fraud calls
- Fake customer support
- OTP scams

### Prevention

- Never share passwords or OTPs
- Verify identities

- Be cautious online

## 2.3 Hacked Accounts

A hacked account is an account accessed illegally by attackers.

### Reasons for Hacking

- Weak passwords
- Phishing attacks
- Malware
- Public Wi-Fi usage

### Signs of Hacked Accounts

- Unknown posts
- Password changes
- Unusual messages

### Prevention

- Use strong passwords
- Enable two-factor authentication
- Avoid suspicious links

## 2.4 Cyberstalking

Cyberstalking means repeatedly harassing or monitoring someone online.

### Examples

- Sending threatening messages
- Tracking online activities
- Fake accusations

### Effects

- Fear and anxiety
- Mental stress
- Privacy invasion

### Prevention

- Block suspicious users
- Report abuse
- Limit personal information online

## 2.5 Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying refers to bullying through digital platforms.

### Forms of Cyberbullying

- Insults
- Rumors
- Threats
- Posting embarrassing content

### Effects

- Depression
- Low confidence
- Emotional trauma

### Prevention

- Avoid responding to bullies
- Save evidence
- Report abusive users

## 2.6 Predators

Online predators are people who misuse social media to exploit others, especially children.

### Methods Used by Predators

- Fake profiles
- Emotional manipulation
- Secret conversations

### Prevention

- Avoid chatting with strangers
- Monitor children's online activities
- Use privacy settings

## 2.7 Phishing

Phishing is a cyberattack used to steal sensitive information.

### Methods

- Fake emails
- Fake websites
- Fraud messages

### Example

A fake bank message asking for account details.

Prevention

- Verify website URLs
- Never share passwords
- Avoid clicking unknown links

## 2.8 Hackers

Hackers are people who gain unauthorized access to systems.

### Types of Hackers

1. White Hat Hackers – Ethical hackers.
2. Black Hat Hackers – Criminal hackers.
3. Grey Hat Hackers – Hack without permission but not always malicious.

### Common Attacks

- Password cracking
- Malware attacks
- Website hacking

### Prevention

- Use security software
- Regular updates
- Secure passwords