Building Safer Digital Futures: The Trust and Safety India Festival 2026 Returns With The Theme "People First. Safety Always."

A global convening hosted in India, bringing together government, industry, civil society, researchers and communities from 17 countries to shape the future of trust, safety and AI governance and advance practical solutions for a safer internet.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Delhi, October 12, 2026: The second edition of the Trust and Safety India Festival (TASI 2026) will take place on **October 14-15, 2026 at the India International Centre, New Delhi**. Convened by the Centre for Social Research (CSR) and the Trust & Safety Festival, TASI is India's first national convening on trust and safety, led by civil society. Its starting point is that building a safer internet takes more than any single sector. It requires collaboration between industry, government, civil society, researchers and communities, and TASI brings these stakeholders into one room.

This year's theme, **"People First. Safety Always,"** puts human experience at the centre of discussions about technology, trust and safety. The festival advances innovation while centering the safety and wellbeing of women, children and marginalised communities.

> **"**Technology is shaped by the societies in which it develops, and by the choices we make about how it is designed, governed and used. As AI opens up new possibilities, we have an opportunity to ensure that technological progress expands human agency, advances equality and serves the public good. The conversation must extend beyond innovation to consider how we build a digital future that is inclusive, accountable and centred on people. TASI brings together diverse stakeholders to engage constructively across differences and turn shared aspirations into practical solutions for a safer, more equitable digital world.**"**
>
> - Dr Ranjana Kumari, Director, Centre for Social Research

TASI 2026 builds on the inaugural festival in 2025, which drew over 500 participants from 15 countries and more than 30 sessions on AI governance, child safety, policy and digital wellbeing. This year, speakers from 17 countries will take part, including Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, France, Germany, Kenya, Malaysia, Nepal, the Netherlands, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, the United Kingdom and the United States, alongside India as the host country. The festival has also been recognised as a labelled initiative under the Indo-French Year of Innovation 2026.

Objective and essence

TASI is a space to exchange perspectives, share learning and explore practical approaches to emerging challenges. The aim is to move the conversation from principles to solutions. Over two days, the festival will address:

- **Platform and AI governance:** How do we build a digital ecosystem that fosters innovation while strengthening trust, safety and accountability? Sessions examine the forces reshaping trust and safety, India's digital service regulation, AI governance, and the relationship between internet regulation and effective governance.

- **Youth well-being:** How can we create digital environments where children and young people can learn, play, connect and thrive? Sessions explore growing up with AI, AI companions through a teen lens, youth co-design of AI companionship, age assurance and age-appropriate design, youth wellbeing, and child safety in online gaming.

- **Child protection:** How can industry, government and civil society work together to strengthen child protection online? Sessions examine collaboration to combat child sexual abuse material (CSAM), from detection and reporting to prevention.

- **Women's safety and participation:** How can we build digital spaces where women can participate fully, confidently and on their own terms? Discussions cover technology-facilitated gender-based violence, image-based abuse, and building safer spaces for women in public life.

- **Journalism and the information ecosystem:** How can we strengthen the information ecosystem and sustain public trust in a changing digital world? Discussions explore journalist safety, deepfakes, information integrity and the role of AI.

- **Combating Trafficking and Exploitation:** How can partnerships across industry, government and civil society strengthen efforts to prevent and respond to trafficking and exploitation? Sessions explore collaborative approaches to prevention and response, bringing together technology platforms, law enforcement and civil society.

- **Tackling Scams and Fraud in the AI Era:** How are scams and fraud evolving alongside new technologies, and what can be done to strengthen

trust and safety? Sessions examine emerging challenges and approaches to combating fraud in the AI era.

- **Creators and communities:** What helps people and communities thrive online? Conversations explore content creator wellbeing, culture and trust online, digital wellness, and how families can navigate technology across generations.

The programme combines Main Stage keynotes, panels and fireside chats with Roundtable and Workshop rooms, including masterclasses, policy labs and youth-led sessions. The festival will also host two report launches, including *Designing for Online Safety: Reimagining India's Digital Service Regulation*.

> **“**TASI has been built as a civil society-led convening where the perspectives and lived realities of users are at the heart of the conversation. It brings government, industry, civil society and communities together to move beyond identifying challenges towards practical, on-the-ground solutions. We are investing in creating meaningful conversations that can translate into action and shared accountability, because a safer digital future will ultimately be defined by what we do—not just what we discuss.”
>
> - Jyoti Vadehra, Head, Online Safety and Wellbeing, Centre for Social Research

Prominent speakers

Government and public institutions

- Shri Jitin Prasada, Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce & Industry and Electronics & IT, Government of India (Chief Guest, Inaugural Address)
- Shikha Dahiya, Joint Director, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India
- Smriti Irani, National General Secretary, Bharatiya Janata Party
- Dr. Sanjeev Sharma, Member Secretary, NCPCR (National Commission for Protection of Child Rights)
- Vijaya Rahatkar, Chairperson, NCW (National Commission of Women)
- Aishwarya Dongre, IPS, Deputy Director, Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre
- H.E. Marie Louise Collectors, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to India

Industry and platforms

- Yoel Roth, Senior Vice President and Head of Trust & Safety, Match Group
- Pragya Misra, Head of Strategy & Global Affairs, India, OpenAI
- Snigdha Bharadwaj, Director of Search & Generative AI Trust Strategy, Google
- Amlan Mohanty, Public Policy and External Affairs Lead, Anthropic India
- Madeline Shepherd, Director, Digital Safety, Microsoft
- Nicky Jackson Colaco, VP and Global Head of Public Policy, Roblox, and Laura Higgins, Senior Director of Community Safety & Civility, Roblox
- Uthara Ganesh, Head of Public Policy, APAC, Snap Inc.
- Natasha Jog, Director, Public Policy, Meta India
- Mahima Kaul, Director, Global Affairs, Netflix India
- Akash Pugalia, Chief Digital Officer, TP, and Rob Lewington, SVP, Trust & Safety, TP
- Rajesh Ranjan, Head of Government Affairs and Public Policy, Google
- Saphia Wanjiru and Basarbalu Can, Booking.com

Civil society, academia and media

- Dr. Ranjana Kumari, Director, Centre for Social Research
- Apar Gupta, Founder Director, Internet Freedom Foundation
- Professor Nandini Chatterjee Singh, Ashoka University
- Rohit Kumar, Founding Partner, TQH
- Siddharth Pillai and Uma Subramanian, RATI Foundation
- Sophie Mortimer, StopNCII.org
- Hasina Kharbhih, Impulse NGO Network
- Tarunima Prabhakar, Tattle Civic Tech
- Manisha Kapoor, CEO & Secretary General, ASCI
- Barkha Dutt, Faye D'Souza and Karuna Nain (Moderators)

Partners

TASI 2026 is supported by Google (Platinum Sponsor), Netflix, Teleperformance (TP), Meta, Snapchat, Booking.com, Obhan & Associates, Tencent, Microsoft, Roblox, GirlEffect, Match Group, the Technology Coalition, IGPP, The Dialogue, TQH and The Indian Express, with the French, German and Netherlands embassies.

Registration and media accreditation

- Registration: https://trustandsafetyindia.org/register
- Media accreditation: https://trustandsafetyindia.org/media/accreditation
- Media contact: india@trustandsafetyfestival.com

About Centre for Social Research

Founded in 1983 in New Delhi, the Centre for Social Research (CSR) has championed women's rights for over 40 years, working across grassroots communities, national policy and global platforms. Since 2016, CSR has been a pioneer in digital safety and online protection in India, directly training over 500,000 students, teachers and parents, and advising partners such as Meta and other technology platforms on trust and safety.

https://www.csrindia.org/

About Trust & Safety Festival

Co-founded by Jean-Christophe Le Toquin and Caroline Humer, the Trust & Safety Festival brings together platforms, regulators, civil society and solutions providers committed to a trusted and safer digital environment. Earlier editions were held in the Netherlands and France, and the India chapter brings Global South perspectives into the global conversation.

https://trustandsafetyindia.org/