



गृह मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
**HOME AFFAIRS**



Course on  
**Social Media Intelligence  
and Evidence**  
(18-20 August, 2025)



**National Forensic  
Sciences University**

**Knowledge | Wisdom | Fulfilment**

**An Institution of National Importance**

**(Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India)**

## ABOUT THE COURSE

With the emergence of different variants of Online Social Media (OSM) such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc. with tremendous data storage facilities, the amount of individual user information available in the public domain is immense. This data becomes a weapon for the perpetrators to commit cyber-crimes such as cyber-bullying, child pornography, online grooming, identity theft etc. Also, the excessive content overload on these media sites leads to the production and propagation of rumours and false news among the masses. Such rumours can instigate emotions and sentiments among the people, leading to instigation of riots, violence and destruction of national infrastructure and economy. This calls for a need to perform investigation in a more efficient technique by collecting available information on users' activities, analyse it and predict a possible threat pattern, so that preventive actions can be taken. On the other hand, social media forensics process aims to recover digital evidence or relevant data from social networking site in a way that will preserve the evidence in a forensically sound condition.

This course aims to provide the participants with advanced knowledge on social media, so that the reservoir of information available in them is used for investigation and collection of evidence by various ways. It highlights the different types of crimes taking place on social networking platforms including propagation of fake news and rumours. The participants will be enlightened on the possible ways of detecting crimes, collection and preservation of evidences and gathering of intelligence (for tracking of offenders and rumour creators) from these sites using different Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) tools and techniques alongwith their online practical demonstration. The course will throw light on the usefulness of mobile phones in investigation of crime incidents related to social media and application of advanced tools and techniques for social media analytics. It will also cover the various laws, legal and regulatory issues pertaining to the use of social media, types of permissible contents and future challenges in this domain. Experts from law enforcement will discuss real-life case studies involving the investigation of cases related to OSM. Lastly, intelligence collection of user's social media data from various cloud sources, future challenges and prevention of cyber-attacks from OSM would also be touched upon by experts in this field.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To familiarize the participants with the different types of crimes, which occur through social media sites and the technique to detect and prevent them.
2. To introduce the participants with the various tools and techniques for collection, acquisition and preservation of digital evidences from social networking sites.
3. To use the social networks as a potential source for gathering of intelligence, tracking criminals, and rumour makers.
4. To demonstrate (online) the participants different Open Source Intelligence Tools (OSINT) and other techniques for collection of evidence and intelligence from different social media platforms.
5. To provide an overview on the advanced Tools and Technologies and their application in social media analytics.
6. To enhance the knowledge base of the participants with discussion of real-life cases pertaining to the investigation of crime cases related to social media and the technique of cracking them.
7. To enable the participants, appreciate, evaluate and interpret the case laws with reference to the IT Act and other laws related to Social Media Evidence.
8. To discuss the investigation and intelligence collection of user's social media data from various cloud sources, future challenges of OSM and ways to prevent major criminal incidents.



# TRAINING CURRICULUM

## 1. Introduction to Online Social Media

- Introduction to various types of social media platforms that are popular in use.
- Sharing of personal information over social media
- Different privacy and security settings on social media sites.

## 2. Types of Crimes related to Online Social Media and their Detection

- Overview of different types of crimes on OSM and their modus operandi.
- Propagation of rumours and fake news on social domain.
- Various techniques for detecting the crimes.

## 3. Collection and Preservation of evidence from Online Social Media

- Different types of evidences found on social media and computer system.
- Tools and techniques of collecting and preserving the evidences.
- Online demonstration of the various tools and techniques for acquisition of evidences from OSM and computer system.

## 4. Intelligence Collection and Social Media Analytics

- Surveillance of social media by Law Enforcement for gathering intelligence.
- Various OSINT tools and their online demonstration for collecting available and hidden data.
- Analysing the acquired data using advanced tools and techniques to predict the probability of crime.

## 5. Crime Investigation on Social Media using Mobile Phones

- Mobile Phones acting as reservoir of information.
- Different social media related artifacts and evidences stored in mobile devices.
- Case studies related to investigation of crimes on social media.

## 6. Online Social Media and Cyber Laws

- Misuse or abuse of social networking platform within the ambit of legal regulation in India.
- Legal, policy and regulatory issues pertaining to use of social media in India.
- Issues relating to social media contracts in India and types of permissible contents on social platforms.
- The existing legal position in India pertaining to mobiles and the various aspects of development of Social Media Law in India.

## 7. Investigation and Intelligence Collection of Social Media data from various Cloud Sources

- Various user data found on different cloud sources.
- Tools and techniques for collection, preservation and analysis of the data from the cloud.
- Challenges faced during the investigation.

## 8. Future Challenges and Prevention of cyber-attacks from OSM

- Emerging challenges in the investigation of social media crimes.
- Various ways to secure information online and Cyber-security to the rescue