Report on "Internet for women: Online Shopping and security issues" Workshop

"Internet for women: Online Shopping and security issues", workshop was organized by Digital empowerment Foundation in DLRC, Kanpur Public Library under Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation initiative on 1st March 2014. The main aim of the workshop was to train and encourage women to use online shopping websites. The workshop also discussed how online shopping could help them save money. This workshop was exclusively designed for women of Kanpur, especially homemakers. 36 Women including library staff attended the workshop. The workshop also made trained them about fake websites and fraud dealers online.

Pratyush Dwivedi, trainer of Kanpur Public Library explained the concept of online shopping in simple terms so that a house lady can understand it completely. Efforts of Kanpur Public Library team gave confidence to the participants about shopping online. Many of them booked some products such as home interior, Suits etc. during the online shopping practical session.

It brought together a diverse group of women from different communities, a few who already had limited knowledge of online shopping and some who were introduced to the concept for the first time. Keeping this in mind, the workshop focused on the following **objectives**:

1. Inviting women Community, introducing and giving hands-on training on using new media and digital tools.

2. Teaching them how to use shopping website, introducing them to the basics of online shopping.

3. Capacity building on the usage of digital media and ICT tools by women for day-to-day work.

4. Digital security note through visual and audio effects.

Result:-

1. 22 Women made shopping during the practices.

2. Other made promise that next time they will use online shopping for the product versatility and cost suitable goods.

3. Practical session eradicates the foe of making buy through online portals.

Recommendations:

1. To conduct more workshops related to such topics.

2. The participants were happy that such a workshop was conducted in their local region. They expressed thanks to Bill and Melinda Gates foundation to start such initiatives.

3. The participants wanted to have more sessions on security tips and how to deal with customer support of any online portal.

4. The participants also showed interest on having a few sessions on basic terminologies that are used online. They wanted to watch audio/video content regarding online shopping to familiarize themselves with the concept.

5. In an effort to continue the learning process, participants suggested that they required Internet and continuous review of everything they were taught in the workshop.

6. Participants suggested some workshops on online banking and how to pay utility bills and expenses.