Digital help desk formed for women journalists facing online harassment

ISLAMABAD: A digital help desk has been launched at local media development organisation Media Matters for Democracy (MMfD) in Islamabad to facilitate women employed in media industry facing online harassment.

According to a press release, a workshop, organized with the support of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), was held in which 30 women journalists and bloggers from different media organizations were present.

The workshop highlighted solutions to counter threats faced by women. The women, taking part in the seminar stated that their male colleagues were more secure online than women. One of the participants stated that the workshop has helped her how to stay cautious online.

The workshop, Connected and Safe, organized with support from were arranged with the objective of empowering women in media to enjoy the benefits of technology without making themselves vulnerable to digital threats.

UNESCO representative Ms. Vibeke Jensen said that female journalists have been exposed to various risks including online assaults and harassment due to the innovation in technology. She added that UNESCO promotes the safety of the journalists and believe that they should perform their duties without any threats.