



Varsity To Unveil Women Safety Device Prototype

12 Sep 2013,

An Amrita University release has said that a group of cyber-security professionals are working on a wearable device that would enable women and girls to trigger communication with family and police when in distress. A prototype of the concept device, Amrita Personal Safety System (APSS), would be formally unveiled during Amritavarsham60—the 60th birthday celebrations of Mata Amritanandamayi Devi, the Chancellor of Amrita University and an internationally acclaimed spiritual leader. The celebrations are taking place on September 26-27 in Kerala.

“APSS is an inconspicuous, wearable and easy-to-operate electronic device that will help girls and women to trigger communication with family and police when in distress. The device will remain invisible to the offender and yet can easily be triggered by its user with multiple options to ensure stealthy and secure communication,” said Dr. Krishnashree Achuthan, Director of Kollam-based Amrita University’s Centre for Cyber Security Systems & Networks.

“With the ability to record conversations and communicate immediately by the press of a button or using SMS and voice calls to multiple destinations, this device also offers automated information on the nearest police station, hospitals and fire stations to the victim so that she can get immediate help,” explained Dr. Achuthan, who was recently in Delhi.

The Amrita Centre for Cyber Security is making efforts to ensure that this device is securely lodged in an earring or a ring, said the release.

“We are designing it so that it can be affordable. The device will soon be equipped with technology that can videotape events,” she pointed out.

According to the release, a distinct feature of APSS would be that it could function even in rural areas where the speed of communication is minimal. Also, this device intelligently combines many location-aware technologies. Thus, it is can function indoors and outdoors with minimal power consumption.

“This customizable device provides flexibility in design for wearability, and integrates more than 15 features pertaining to women’s safety and security. Significantly, it can also be used as a safety device for mentally challenged people with many functionalities to quickly identify their whereabouts,” said Dr. Achuthan, an author of 29 US patents.

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