

PRESS RELEASE

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c0c0n 2026: Kochi to Host Global Cybersecurity Community in October

Eight-day cybersecurity conference to bring together global experts, law enforcement agencies, industry leaders, researchers and technology professionals

Kochi, Kerala: Kochi is set to become a global meeting point for the cybersecurity community as **c0c0n 2026**, one of India's longest-running cybersecurity and hacking conferences, returns for its 19th edition from **6 to 13 October 2026** at **Grand Hyatt, Bolgatty, Kochi**.

Organised under the leadership of the **Kerala Police**, c0c0n 2026 will bring together cybersecurity professionals, government and law enforcement agencies, industry leaders, researchers, technology experts, academicians and students from across India and around the world.

With the theme **“Empowering Cyber Resilience: Strategy, Deep-Tech, and Global Enforcement,”** this year's conference will focus on the evolving cybersecurity landscape and the need to build stronger, smarter and more resilient digital ecosystems.

The eight-day programme is expected to feature **200+ speakers, 3,000+ participants, delegates from 20+ countries and 20+**

technical training programmes, making c0c0n 2026 one of the major cybersecurity gatherings in the region.

Six key tracks covering the evolving threat landscape

The conference will feature dedicated tracks covering critical areas of cybersecurity, including **Artificial Intelligence, Leadership (CXO) & GRC, FinTech & BFSI, Research & Technical, OT, IoT, Hardware & Beyond, Law Enforcement Agencies (LEA), and Child Sexual Exploitation & Abuse (CSEA)**.

Discussions will explore emerging cyber threats, AI-driven security, financial-sector cybersecurity, industrial and operational technology security, hardware security, cybercrime investigation, digital forensics and other emerging challenges.

Global experts and industry leaders

c0c0n 2026 will feature speakers and experts from government, industry, law enforcement and the international cybersecurity community.

Among the prominent speakers are **Challa Sreenivasulu Setty, Chairman, State Bank of India; Ashish Kumar Chauhan, MD & CEO, National Stock Exchange of India; H.E. Dr. Mohamed Al Kuwaiti, Head of Cyber Security, UAE; Dr. Sanjay Bahl, Director General, CERT-In; Eng. Badar Al Salehi, Director General, Oman National CERT; and Bjørn Richard Watne, CISO, INTERPOL Office of Internal Oversight**, among others.

Eight days of learning, collaboration and hands-on experience

The event will be conducted in three phases. **Pre-Conference Technical Trainings** will be held from **6 to 8 October**, followed by the **Main Conference on 9 and 10 October**, and **Post-Conference Technical Trainings from 11 to 13 October**.

In addition to technical sessions and keynote addresses, the programme will include **master classes, round tables, networking sessions, Capture the Flag (CTF) competitions, cybersecurity villages and live bug bounty activities**.

A dedicated exhibition area of more than **25,000 sq. ft.** will provide an opportunity for technology companies and cybersecurity organisations to showcase their solutions and engage with the wider cybersecurity community.

Focus on child online safety

A dedicated **Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (CSEA) Track** will address some of the most serious challenges affecting children in the digital environment.

The track will bring together law enforcement agencies, researchers, technology experts, policymakers and child-safety professionals to discuss emerging threats and strategies for protecting children online.

Strengthening law enforcement capabilities

With cybercrime becoming increasingly sophisticated and transnational, c0c0n 2026 will also place a strong emphasis on strengthening the capabilities of law enforcement agencies.

Specialised programmes, including **LEA CTF 2.0**, will provide opportunities for law enforcement personnel to develop and test practical skills related to cybercrime investigation, digital forensics and cybersecurity.

“The Dark Web: Beyond the Anonymity” is an exclusive post-conference training session at c0c0n 2026 for Kerala Police, aimed at strengthening investigative capabilities in the evolving cyber-threat landscape. The session will provide an in-depth understanding of the Dark Web, the Tor network, its architecture, layered-routing mechanism, and how Tor and hidden services work, along with the challenges of anonymity and attribution. In the context of the ongoing Kerala Police initiative, **Operation Toofan**, the training will extend law-enforcement capabilities beyond the conventional internet, providing investigators with practical knowledge to understand, identify and investigate criminal activities operating through anonymised networks, including associated digital traces and cryptocurrency ecosystems.

As part of the initiative, the LEA Call for Papers will encourage police personnel, investigators, cybersecurity professionals and technology experts to share innovative ideas, investigative methodologies, problem-solving approaches and practical tools that can strengthen cybercrime investigations. The initiative aims to create a platform for sharing field-level challenges and technology-

driven solutions, fostering collaboration between law enforcement and the cybersecurity community and contributing to the development of more effective, practical and future-ready capabilities for combating cybercrime.

Building a more resilient digital future

Over the years, c0c0n has evolved into a platform that connects government, law enforcement, industry, academia and the global cybersecurity community.

As artificial intelligence and emerging technologies continue to transform the digital landscape, c0c0n 2026 aims to facilitate meaningful dialogue, knowledge sharing and collaboration towards building a safer, more secure and resilient digital future.

c0c0n 2026

Date: 6–13 October 2026

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