

CABINET SECRETARIAT, CABINET DIVISION
NATIONAL TELECOM & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECURITY BOARD
(NTISB)

No. 1-5/2003 (NTISB-II)

Islamabad 6 May, 2015

Subject:- **Phishing Email for Stealing Username / Password (Advisory No. 07) April 2015**

Recently, several emails have been reported and evaluated that show a new trend in fake/phishing emails for stealing username/password of targeted users.

2. **Modus Operandi.**

- a. Emails is sent using fake IDs which impersonate official address of service provider such as Gmail, Hotmail etc.
- b. Subject of the email tricks, lures or forces the user into entering username / password on fake login pages thereby stealing the information.
- c. **Known / Reported Incidents.** Some of the significant reported imidusance given below:-

Ser	Subject of Email	Email Sender impersonating Official Address	Annex
(1)	Update your personal information	google.service.manager@gmail.com	Annex A
		google.update.notification@gmail.com	Annex B
(2)	Unusual activity on your mail account	serve_update_team@outlook.com	Annex C
(3)	Warning	do_not_reply@hotmail.com	Annex D
(4)	Violation of e-mail security	google.update.nitificatio@gmail.com	Annex E
(5)	Distrustful sign in from Israel stopped	google.update.notification@gmail.com	Annex F
(6)	Google Security: Access for apps has been enabled	no_reply@accounts.google.com	Annex G
(7)	Multiple login Attempts	service.updates.team@gmail.com	Annex H

3. **Recommendations.** In order to enhance security against attempts to steal passwords following is suggested, please:-

- a. Avoid checking such spoofed e-mails/subjects and mark them as spam.
- b. Such emails may be forwarded on following email address for analysis and suggesting their authenticity. Coordination may also be carried out on 051-9204560 for immediate action:-
 - (1) eagle 1978@mail.com
 - (2) falcon098@write.me.com
- c. Install well reputed antivirus / firewall software that block known phishing sites
 - (1) Bitdefender Total Security.
 - (2) Kaspersky Internet Security.
 - (3) Eset NOD32 Internet Security
- d. Change password of the account immediately
- e. Enable "Two Factor Authentication" in all email accounts. As an example procedure for enabling it in gmail is attached as Annex I.
- f. Before entering username and password on login pages, please ensure the action is being carried out on actual pages. Verify the address in "address bar" of web browser as mentioned at Annex J.
- g. Use chrome or firefox and install plugin "Web of Trust" to view rating of websites before opening it.

4. It is requested that above mentioned information may be disseminated to all concerned in order to safeguard against leakage of sensitive information.



(Iftikhar)

Assistant Secretary (NT)
Ph # 051-9204560

**All Secretaries of Ministries / Divisions of Federal Government and
PSO to Chief Secretaries of Provincial Governments**

Phishing (Fake Email) - 01

Anx A

From: System Admin <google.service.manager@gmail.com>
[REDACTED]
Subject: Update your personal information

Dear User,

The e-mail sent to you to inform you that we are enable to verify your account details.

This might be due to either of the following reason:

1. A recent change in your personal information (e.g address, phone).
2. Submitting incorrect information during register process.

Due to this, to ensure that your email service is not interrupted, we request you confirm and update your information by click on '[Update Info](#)'

Sincerely

Gmail Member Services Team

Phishing (Fake Email) - 02

Anx B

From: Admin System <google.update.notification@gmail.com>
[REDACTED]
Subject: Update your personal Information
[REDACTED]

Dear User,

The e-mail sent to you to inform you that we are enable to verify your account details.

This might be due to either of the following reason:

1. A recent change in your personal information (e.g address, phone).
2. Submitting incorrect information during register process.

Due to this, to ensure that your email service is not interrupted, we request you confirm and update your information by click on '[Update Info](#)'

Sincerely

Gmail Member Services Team

Phishing (Fake Email) - 03

Anx C

From: Outlook Team <service_update_team@outlook.com>
[REDACTED]

Subject: Unusual activity on your mail account

Dear user,

At Outlook / Hotmail! your account safety is our top priority. Recently, we have detected some unusual activity on your account. Please verify your account for mail security.

[Verify Here](#)

Sincerely,
Outlook Member Services Team

Phishing (Fake Email) - 04

Anx D

From: Microsoft Update <do-not-reply@hotmail.com>
[REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Warning

Dear User,

We hereby announce to you that your email account has exceeded its storage limit. You will be unable to send and receive mails and your email account will be deleted from our server. To avoid this problem, you are advised to verify your email account click below link

<http://mircrosoftwa.hpage.mobi/>

Phishing (Fake Email) - 05

Anx E

From: googleadmin <google.update.notification@gmail.com>

Subject: Violation of e-mail security

This mail is being sent to you because of violation of security breach that was detected by our servers. Our servers detected that one of the message you have received from a contact has already infected your mail with a dangerous virus.

You can no longer be allowed to send message or files to other user to prevent the spread of virus to other mail users. Please follow the link to perform maintenance work needed to improve the protection of mail service for us to verify and have your account cleared against this virus.

Click [Here](#)

WARNING!!! Email owner who refuses to upgrade their account within 48 hrs notification of this update will permanently be deleted from our database and can also lead to malfunctioning of the client or user's account and we will not be responsible for losing your account

System Administrator

Phishing (Fake Email) - 06

Anx F

From: Mailbox Service Centre <google.update.notification@gmail.com>

Subject: Distrustful sign in from Israel stopped

Google

Hi

Distrustful sign in stopped

An distrustful sign in attempt to your mail account was stopped on March 13, 2015 at 10:22:52 AM.

Your mail account has been attempted for access from HaMerkaz, Israel using IP address 137.132.210.68.

To avoid blocking of your mail account we need your verification.

Verify



Happy emailing,
The Gmail Team

Phishing (Fake Email) - 07

Anx G

From: Google <no-reply@accounts.google.com>
Subject: Google Security: Access for apps has been enabled

Google

Hi Nauman,

You recently changed your security settings so that your Google Account (nauman28c@gmail.com) is no longer protected by modern security standards.

If you did not make this change

Please review your Account Activity page at [activity](#) to see if anything looks suspicious.

If you made this change

Please be aware that it is now easier for an attacker to break into your account. You can make your account safer again by undoing this change at <https://www.google.com/settings/security/lesssecureapps> then switching to apps made by Google such as Gmail to access your account.

Yours sincerely,
The Google Accounts team

This email can't receive replies. For more information, visit the Google Accounts Help Center.

You received this mandatory email service announcement to update you about important changes to your Google product or account.
© 2015 Google Inc., 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94044, USA

Phishing (Fake Email) - 08

Anx H

From: "System Admin" <service.updates.team@gmail.com>

Subject: Multiple illegal attempts

Cc:

Dear User,

We discovered a multiple illegal attempts on your mail account from a different IP location, mobile device or other location you've never used before.

For your protection update your IP location and secure your account with our new security update.

Update Here



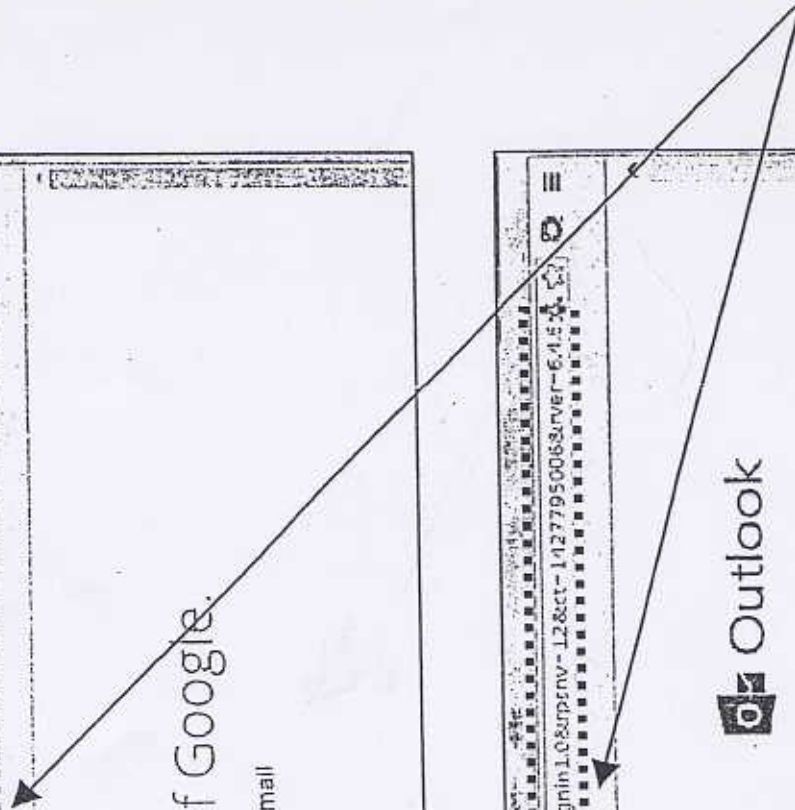
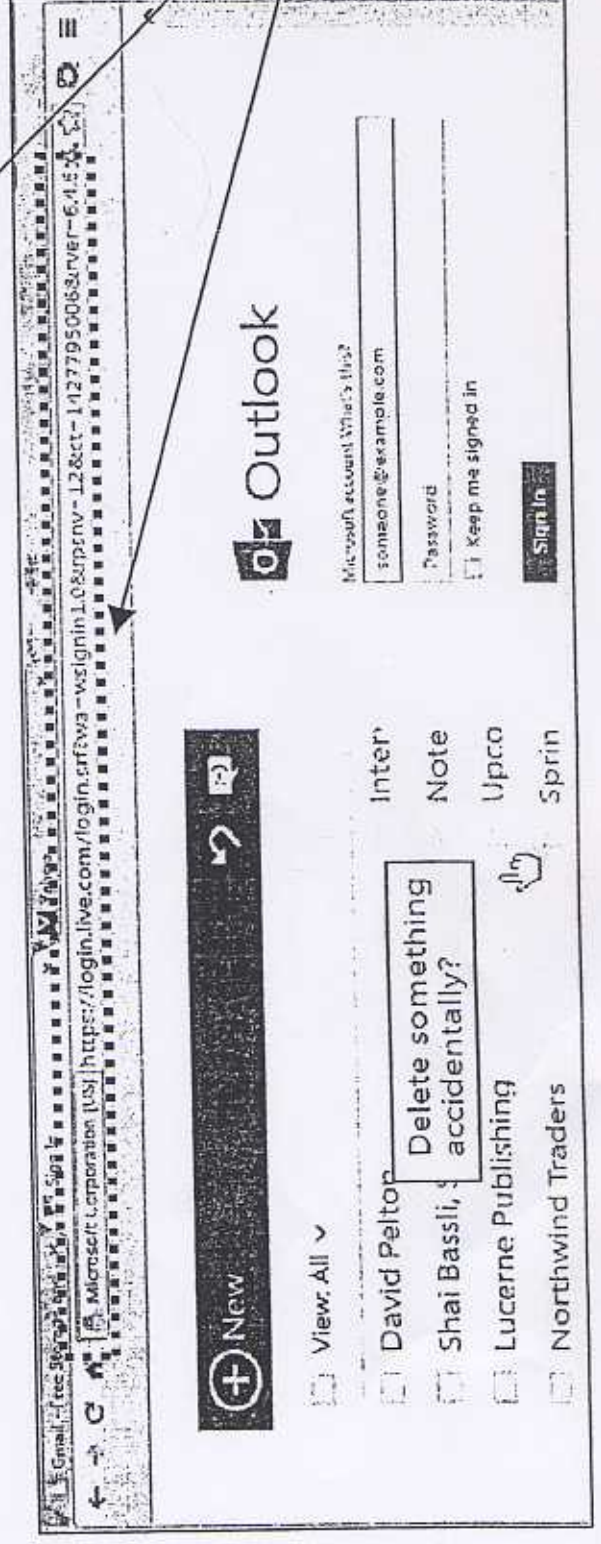
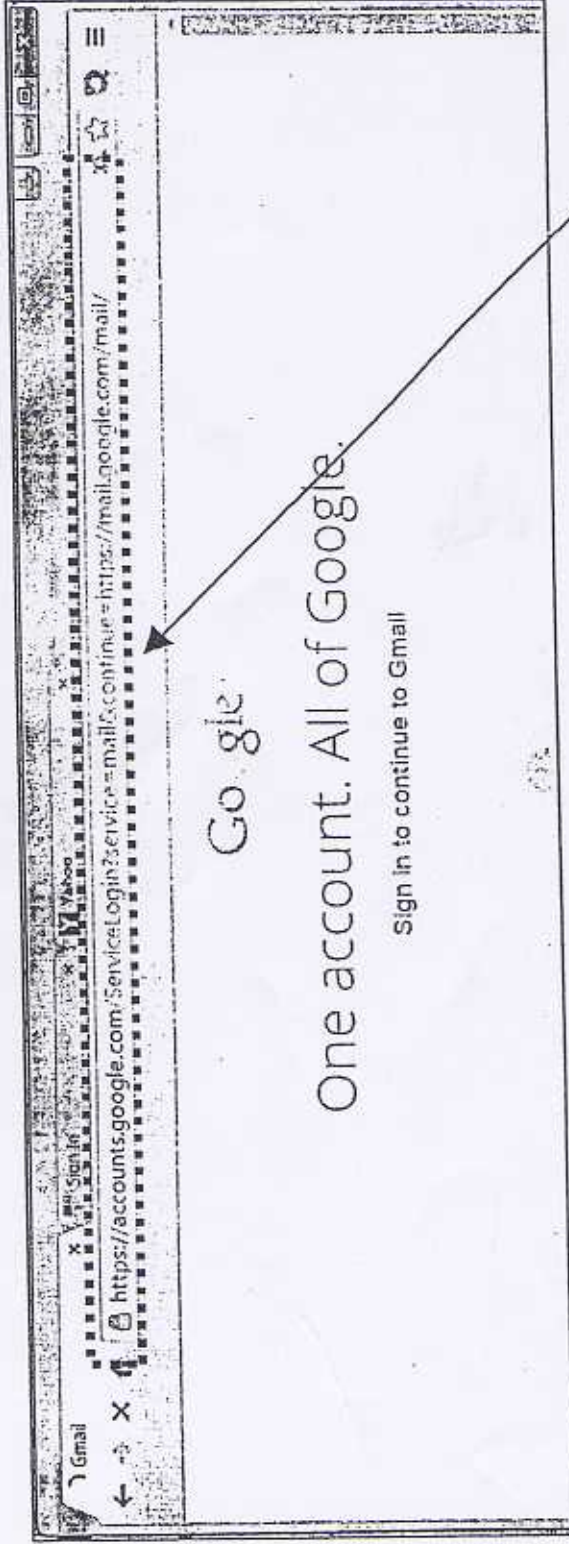
Sincerely

Gmail Member Services Team

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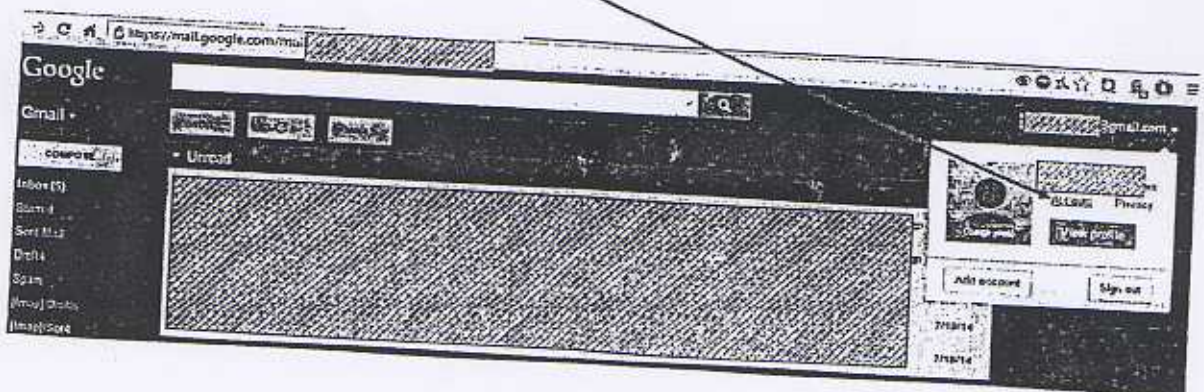
Verification of URL Before Entering Username / Password

Verify URL in Address Bar

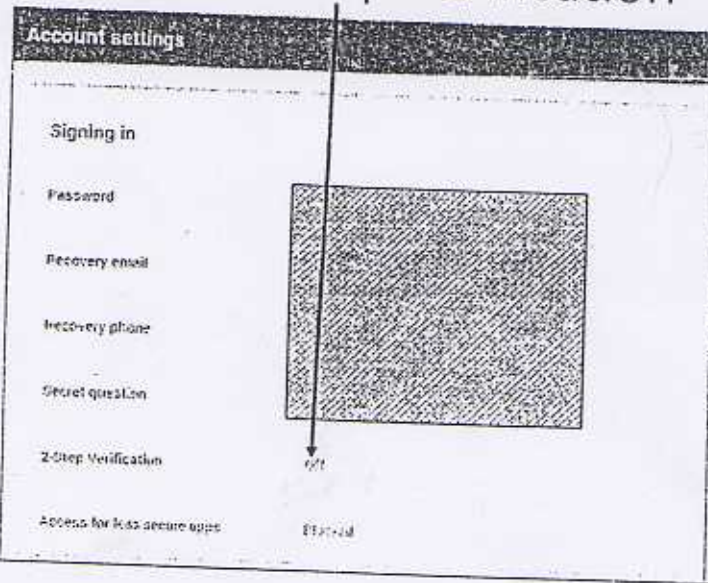


Enabling two factor authentication in gmail

Step 1 – Click on “Accounts”



Step 2 – Click on 2-Step Verification



Step 3 – Click Start Setup

Signing in with 2-step verification



Signing in will be different

You'll need verification codes: After entering your password, you'll enter a code that you'll get via text, voice call, or our mobile app.



Keep it simple

Once per computer, or every time: During sign in, you can tell us not to ask for a code again on that particular computer.



Help keep others out

You'll still be covered: We'll ask for codes when you (or anyone else) tries to sign in to your account from other computers.

2-step verification

Keep the bad guys out of your account by using both your password *and* your phone.



[Learn more](#)

Step 4 – Enter password again and start setting phone number and click Send Code. IN next screen, verify the code sent on mobile number

Set up your phone

1 2 3 4

Which phone should we send codes to?

Google will send a numeric code to your phone whenever you sign in from an authorized computer or device.

Phone number in 001 201 547 8

How should we send you codes?

Text message (SMS)

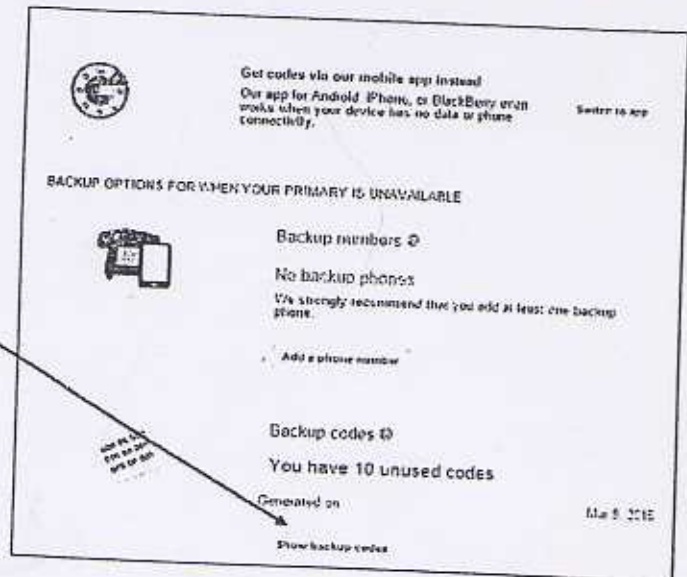
Voice Call

- You provide the number for account recovery (US: 10-10)
- Google will use it to help you sign in (US: 10-10)
- It may be used to verify you are you.

Steps till here will enable you to sign in using a code which is sent from google to your mobile number, each time you sign in

Step 5 – You can print a set of 10 codes. This will enable 2-factor authentication using one code which can be used next time. You will not be dependent on mobile phone.

Keep these codes safe and generate new codes before they are finished



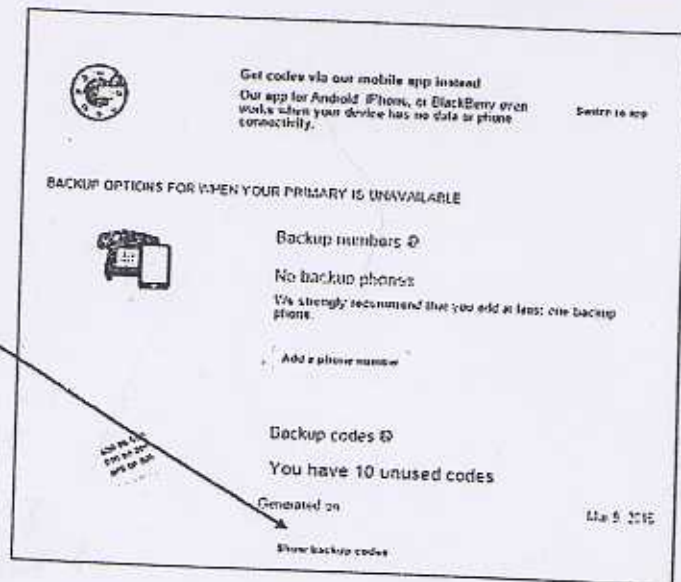
The screenshot shows a mobile application interface with the following elements:

- Top Left:** A circular icon with a globe.
- Top Right:** Text: "Get codes via our mobile app instead. Our app for Android, iPhone, or BlackBerry often works when your device has no data or phone connectivity." and a button labeled "Switch to App".
- Section Header:** "BACKUP OPTIONS FOR WHEN YOUR PRIMARY IS UNAVAILABLE".
- Left Side:** An icon of a smartphone and a tablet.
- Right Side:**
 - Backup members:** "Backup members 0".
 - No backup phones:** "No backup phones. We strongly recommend that you add at least one backup phone." Below this is a button "Add a phone number".
 - Backup codes:** "Backup codes 0".
 - You have 10 unused codes:** "You have 10 unused codes".
 - Generated on:** "Generated on Mar 8, 2015".
 - Show backup codes:** A button labeled "Show backup codes".

A handwritten arrow points from the text "one code which can be used next time" in the left column to the "Show backup codes" button in the screenshot.

Step 5 – You can print a set of 10 codes. This will enable 2-factor authentication using one code which can't be used next time. You will not be dependent on mobile phone.

Keep these codes safe and generate new codes before they are finished



The screenshot shows a mobile application interface with the following elements:

- Top Left:** A circular icon with a globe and a checkmark.
- Top Right:** Text: "Get codes via our mobile app instead. Our app for Android, iPhone, or BlackBerry often works when your device has no data or phone connectivity." and a link "Switch to app".
- Section Header:** "BACKUP OPTIONS FOR WHEN YOUR PRIMARY IS UNAVAILABLE".
- Icon:** An icon of a smartphone and a tablet.
- Section 1:** "Backup numbers" with a plus sign. Below it, "No backup phones" and "It's strongly recommended that you add at least one backup phone." followed by a link "Add a phone number".
- Section 2:** "Backup codes" with a plus sign. Below it, "You have 10 unused codes" and "Generated on" followed by the date "Mar 5, 2015".
- Bottom:** A link "Show backup codes".
- Bottom Left:** A small note: "All in all, this is a good idea to do."