GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN CABINET SECRETRIAT, CABINET DIVISION NATIONAL TELECOM & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECURITY BOARD (NTISB)

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

Islamabad 29 March 2021

Subject: Advisory - Microsoft Exchange Server (2010 & Onwards) Patches (Advisory No. 18)

- 1. <u>Context.</u> Microsoft has released **one-click mitigation software** that applies countermeasures to secure Microsoft Exchange Server (**versions 2010, 2013, 2016 & 2019**). Administrator s are requested to apply recommendations provided at **para3**.
- Details of Mitigation Software.
 - a. <u>Name of Tool.</u> Exchange On premises Mitigation Tool (EOMT).
 - b. <u>Cyber Attack Targeted.</u> Proxy Logon Exchange Server.
 - c. <u>CVE Mitigated.</u> CVE-2021-26855.
 - d. <u>Post Exploitation Tool.</u> China Chopper (Active Server Page Extended ASPX) web shell that gives access to adversary to execute code on server.

3. Recommendations

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- a. Prioritize deployment of updates to affected Exchange servers:-
 - (1) Exchange Servers 2010 to be patched to KB5000978 Mar 2 2021 update and Exchange Servers 2013,2016&2019 to be patched to KB5000871 Mar 2 2021 update
 - (2) Exchange online is not affected so it does not require patching.
 - (3) Exchange 2003 and 2007 are affected. Therefore, these should be upgraded to latest versions.
 - (4) Analyze exchange products logs for evidence of exploitation. This process may be automated through script available at https://github.com/microsoft/CSSExchange/tree/main/Security.
 - (5) Scan for known Webshells on own servers for Indictors of Compromise. Healt Checker Tool form https://github.com/dpaulson45/HealthChecker#download to get Exchange Server updates.
- 4. <u>Reporting of Suspicious Files / Emails.</u> Any malicious activity may be reported to this organization on following email addresses for analysis and suggesting mitigation measures:-

asntisb2@cabinet.gov.pk

5. Forwarded for perusal and dissemination of information to all concerned and under command, please.

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