

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
CABINET SECRETARIAT
CABINET DIVISION
(NTISB)

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

Islamabad, the 13 September, 2022

Subject: - **Cyber Security Advisory – Play Store Apps Spying on Android Users Using Face Stealer (Advisory No. 40)**

Context. Recently, more than 200 Android apps **masquerading as benign** apps have been observed distributing spyware called 'Facestealer' to gather user credentials and other valuable information.

2. **Categories.** Of the 200 apps; **42 are VPN services, 20x camera and photo editing applications** and **152 are apps masquerading as fitness and puzzle apps/ others.** Though, Google has removed these apps from Play Store; users who might have installed are advised to remove/ uninstall these apps (few examples at **Appendix-I**).

3. **Capabilities.** Capabilities of a face stealer app are as under:-
a. **Face stealer app** changes its code frequently, thus spawning many variants.
b. Gathers sensitive data such as **Facebook login credentials.**
c. In addition to harvesting credentials, the apps are also designed to collect Facebook cookies and **personally identifiable information** associated with a victim's account.

4. **Recommendations.** To avoid falling victim to such scam apps, users are advised to always check **reviews, verify legitimacy of developers** and **avoid downloading apps from third-party app stores.**

5. Kindly disseminate the above message to all concerned in your organizations, all attached/ affiliated departments and ensure necessary protective measures.


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

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1. Secretary to the Prime Minister, Prime Minister Secretariat, Islamabad
2. Secretary to the President, Aiwan-e-Sadar, Islamabad
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4. Additional Secretary-III, Cabinet Division, Islamabad
5. Director General (Tech), Dte Gen, ISI Islamabad
6. Director (IT), Cabinet Division, Islamabad

FACESTEALER APPS

Ser	App	Likely Purpose
a.	Daily Fitness OL	A fitness application that comes in the utilities & tools category
b.	Panorama Camera	An application for taking panorama images through your phone's camera.
c.	Business Meta Manager	An application for managing Facebook business profiles.
d.	Swam Photo	A photo editor application for Android, where it allows users to remove background and create photo collages.
e.	Enjoy Photo Editor	A photo editor application.
f.	Cryptomining Farm Your own Coin	A cryptocurrency application.
g.	Photo Gaming Puzzle	A game application.
h.	BitFunds	Crypto Cloud Mining.
i.	Bitcoin Miner	Cloud Mining.
j.	Bitcoin (BTC)	Pool Mining Cloud Wallet.
k.	Crypto Holic	Bitcoin Cloud Mining.
l.	Daily Bitcoin rewards	Cloud Based Mining System.
m.	Bitcoin 2021	
n.	MineBit Pro	Crypto Cloud Mining & btc miner.
o.	Ethereum (ETH)	Pool Mining Cloud.