

# **Digital Transformation Finance Summit 2025**

## **Use Cases & Studies Mobile & Social Media Security**

Scientist 'E'  
C-DAC Hyderabad

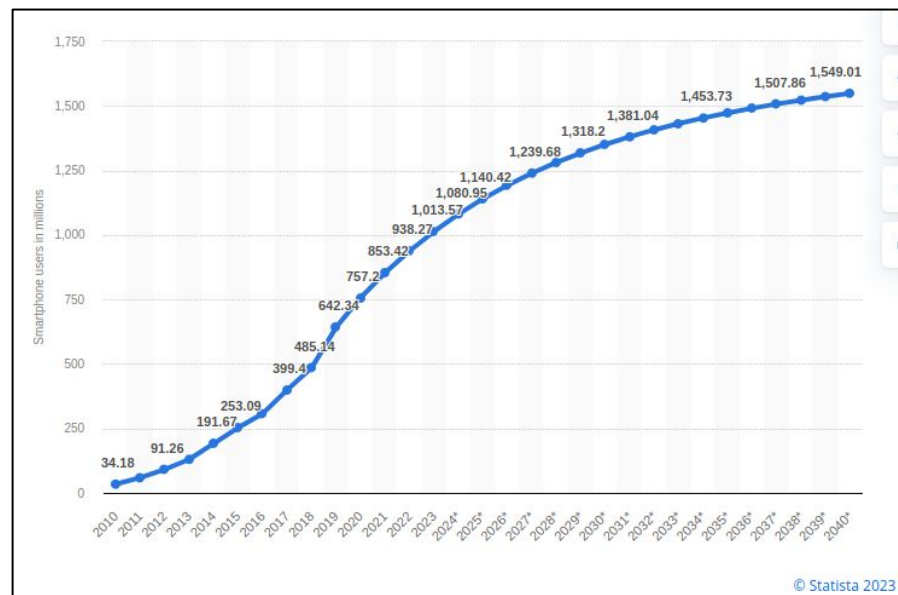
# Agenda

- Introduction
- Some Recent Use Cases & Attacks
- Threat Modelling of a Mobile Application
- Secure Way of Using Smartphone
- Social Media Security
- Mobile Security Solutions @ C-DAC Hyderabad

# Introduction

# India's Smartphone Growth

- The smartphone sector in India is set to surpass one billion users in 2026 and anticipated to surge to 1.55 billion by 2040.
- This expansion highlights the widespread impact of smartphones, particularly in rapidly developing countries like India.
- Endpoints become vulnerable to various threats, including attacks and data breaches, due to exposure to unknown applications and networks



# INDIA 2ND LARGEST AFTER CHINA

**227m**

Rural  
India

**205m**

Urban  
India

**71m** kids aged between  
5-11 also go online using  
adults' devices



**503m**

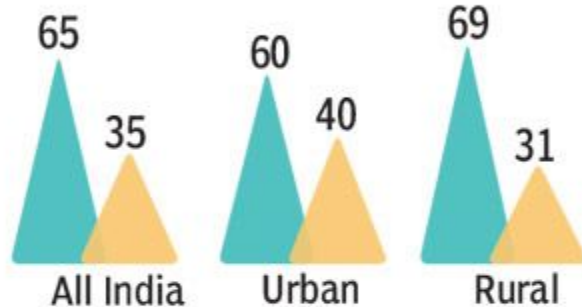
India

**850m** China

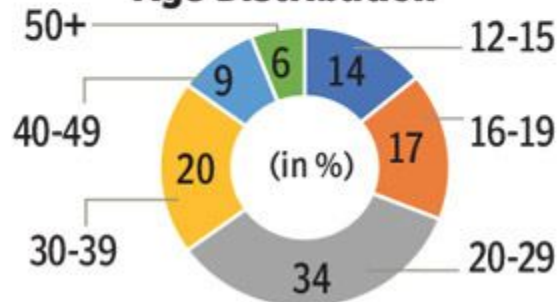
Source: IAMA/Nielsen

## Gender Distribution

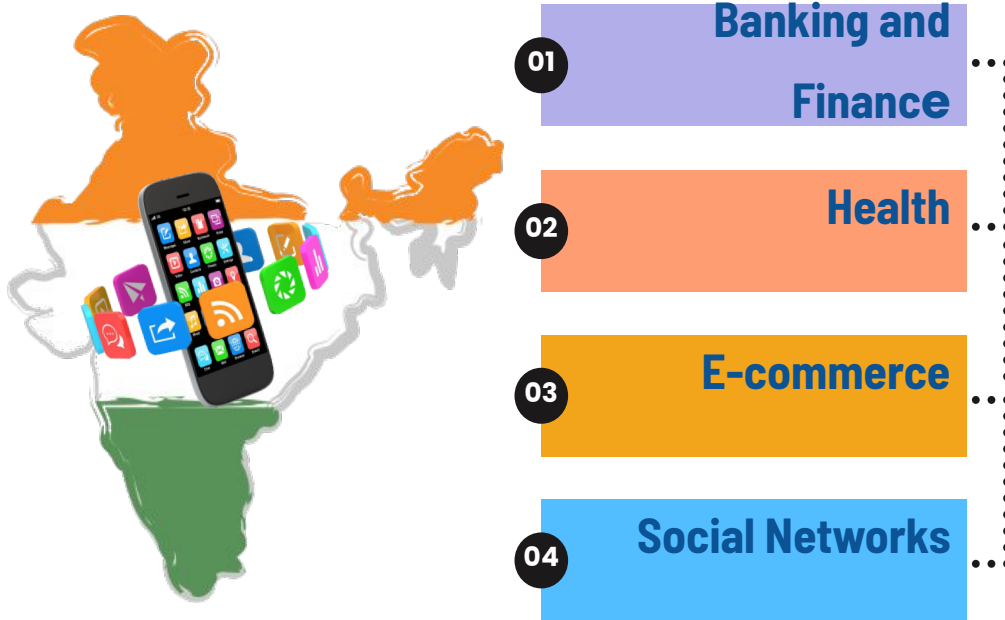
(as %)



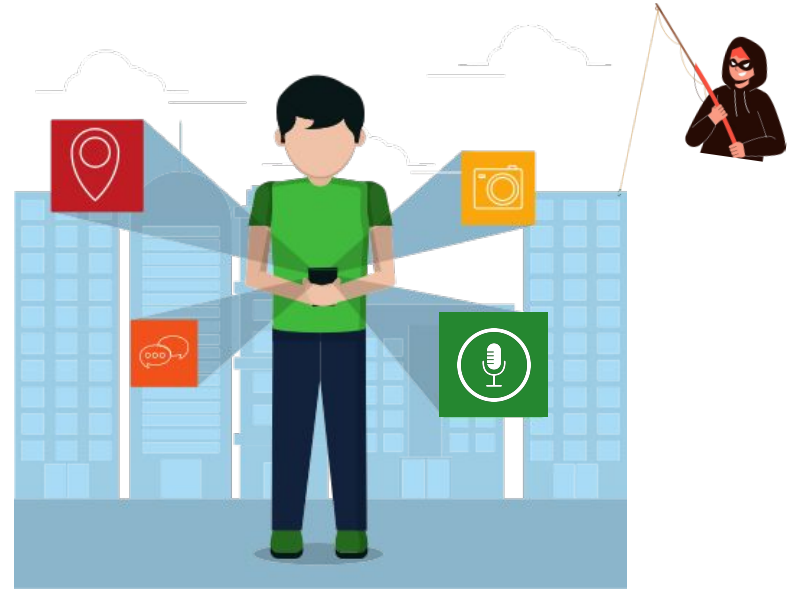
## Age Distribution



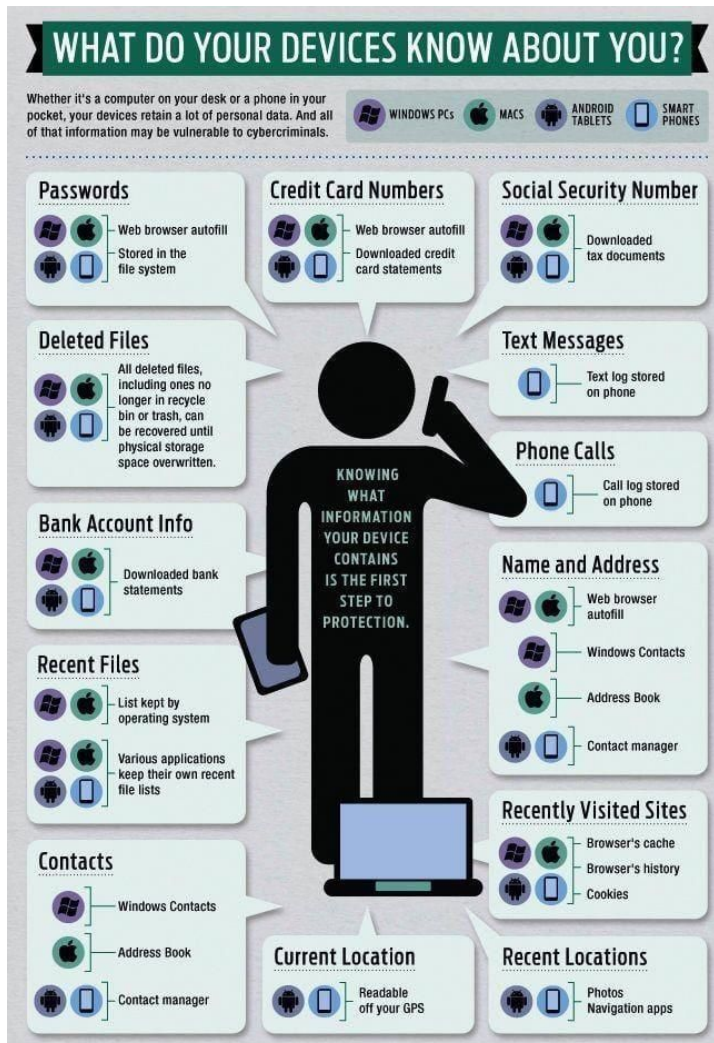
# Mobile Applications Dominate the Country's Mobile Space

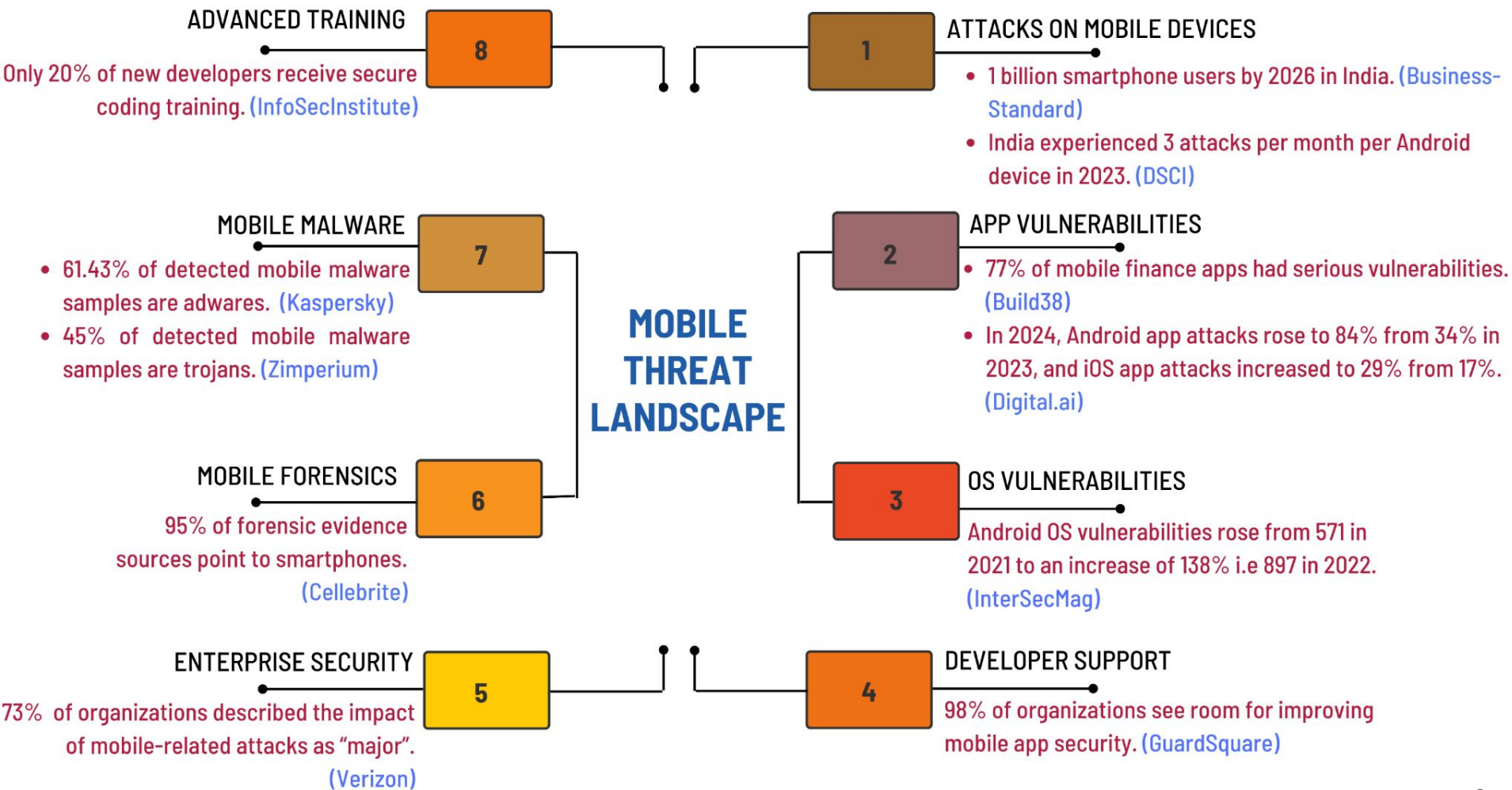


# Rise of Malicious Mobile Apps Amidst Large Scale Evolution



Our complete **Personal Sensitive** Information is carried by our smartphones







# **Some Use Cases & Recent Attacks**

# Keshod trader loses 1.8L to cyberfraud via fake app

Jul 26, 2025, 00:08 IST

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AA

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Rajkot: A trader from Keshod in Junagadh district lost Rs 1.8 lakh after falling victim to a cyber fraud involving a fake mobile application.

According to the FIR registered at the Junagadh Range Cyber police station, Patel received a WhatsApp message on Feb 25, 2025, containing a link to an application falsely claiming to be related to his bank's Aadhaar update process. Believing it to be genuine, Patel downloaded and installed the app on his mobile phone. However, upon suspecting the app to be fraudulent, he

quickly uninstalled it.

Soon after, he began receiving SMS alerts from his bank about unauthorised transactions, amounting to Rs 1.8 lakh. Police suspect that the fake app may have granted remote access to Patel's phone or banking credentials, enabling the cybercriminals to carry out the theft.

**Impacted Users:** iPhone users in India

**Impact:** Possible financial loss; stolen information can be used for future attacks

**Severity Level:** Medium

The FortiGuard Labs Threat Research team recently observed a number of social media posts commenting on a fraud campaign targeting India Post users. India Post is India's government-operated postal system. It is part of the Ministry of Communications and has a vast network of over 150,000 post offices across the country, making it one of the largest postal systems in the world.

In this campaign, iPhone users are being targeted by smishing attacks claiming to be from India Post. This scam involves sending an iMessage to iPhone users that falsely claims that a package is waiting at an India Post warehouse.

Public **reporting** suggests this campaign is being attributed to a China-based threat actor known as the **Smishing Triad**. This group has previously targeted other regions, including the US, UK, EU, UAE, KSA, and, most recently, Pakistan.

# Mumbai police constable loses money after opening malicious file from WhatsApp group

Jul 29, 2025, 20:43 IST

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Mumbai: A 36-year-old police constable from the Trombay police station lost Rs 7.54 lakh after opening a malicious APK file shared in an official WhatsApp group, Mohalla Committee Trombay. An FIR was registered against unidentified cyber criminals for cheating and data theft.

The victim, Sachin Kashid, serving with the police since 2016, received a file titled 'RTO Challan.apk' in the group on July 22. The file was shared by a member whose phone was unknowingly compromised.

Kashid clicked on it, after which his mobile phone was hacked. Shortly, fraudulent loan transactions began reflecting in his HDFC Bank salary account. A personal loan of Rs 7.58 lakh was sanctioned in his name without his consent, and within minutes, Rs 4.99 lakh and Rs 2.55 lakh were siphoned off to a payment system labelled 'CCAHPAY'.

# Former loan recovery agent arrested for extortion, blackmail scam via apps; police say pan-India racket exposed

TNN / Jul 14, 2025, 05:28 IST

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Pune: A 29-year-old resident of Vashi in Navi Mumbai has been arrested by the Pimpri Chinchwad police in connection with cheating and blackmailing people through fake loan apps, which he allegedly executed on the instructions of handlers based in Singapore.

The arrest, said the police, throws open a pan-India loan fraud racket.

Accused Isaki Thevar of Vashi, who worked as a loan recovery agent, has been duping people through at least eight fake loan apps, police officers told TOI, adding that the apps have at least 10,000 complaints registered against them across the country as determined from the national cybercrime portal.

**You Can Also Check:** [Pune AQI](#) | [Weather in Pune](#) | [Bank Holidays in Pune](#) | [Public Holidays in Pune](#)

Investigations further revealed that the suspect and his handlers used Pakistani cellphone numbers to cheat and blackmail several victims.

# Goldoson

- Goldoson is an Android adware integrated into a third-party library used unknowingly by legitimate app developers
- It was found in over 60 apps with a cumulative download count exceeding 100 million globally, including well-known apps
- Goldoson collects sensitive information, including:
  - List of installed apps
  - GPS location history
  - Data from WiFi and Bluetooth-connected devices
- Collected data is sent to a remote server every two days for processing

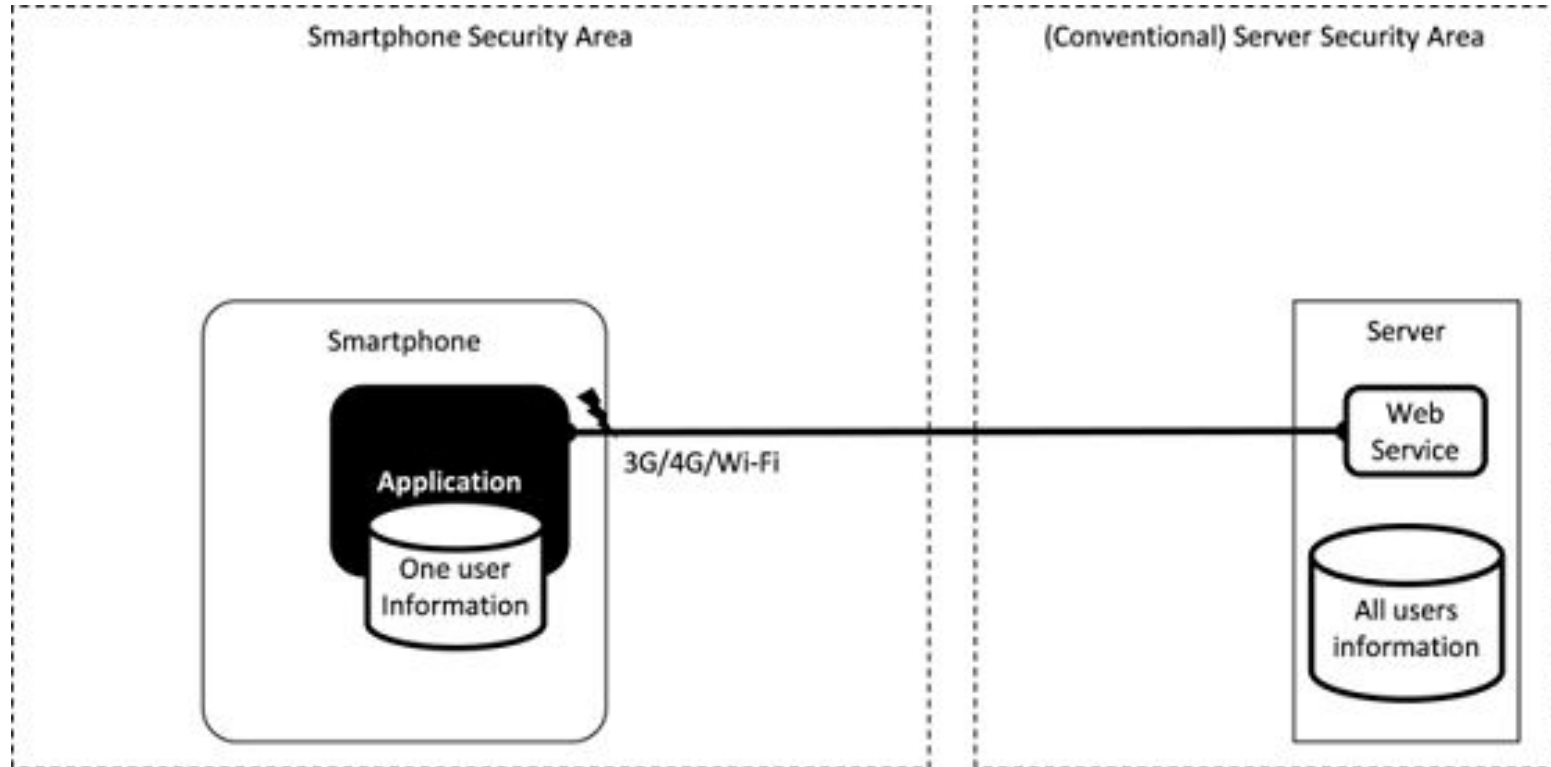
# **Threat Modelling of Mobile Applications**

# Threat Modelling of a Mobile Application

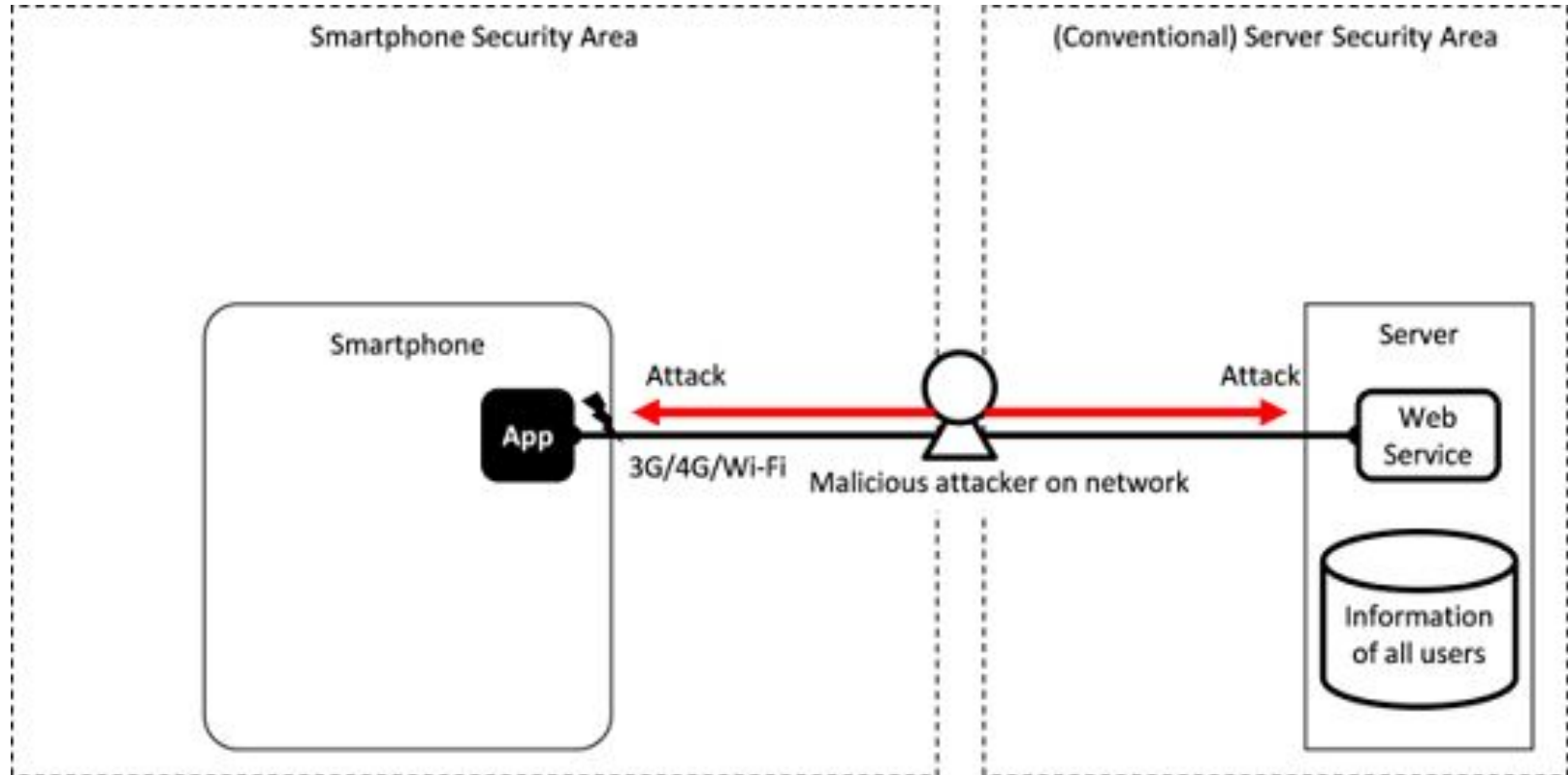
- Threat modeling is a structured approach used in security analysis to identify, evaluate, and address potential threats and vulnerabilities in an application, system, or infrastructure before they can be exploited.
- When it comes to a mobile application, threat modeling can help identify potential vulnerabilities and design flaws, and determine the appropriate security controls to protect against them.



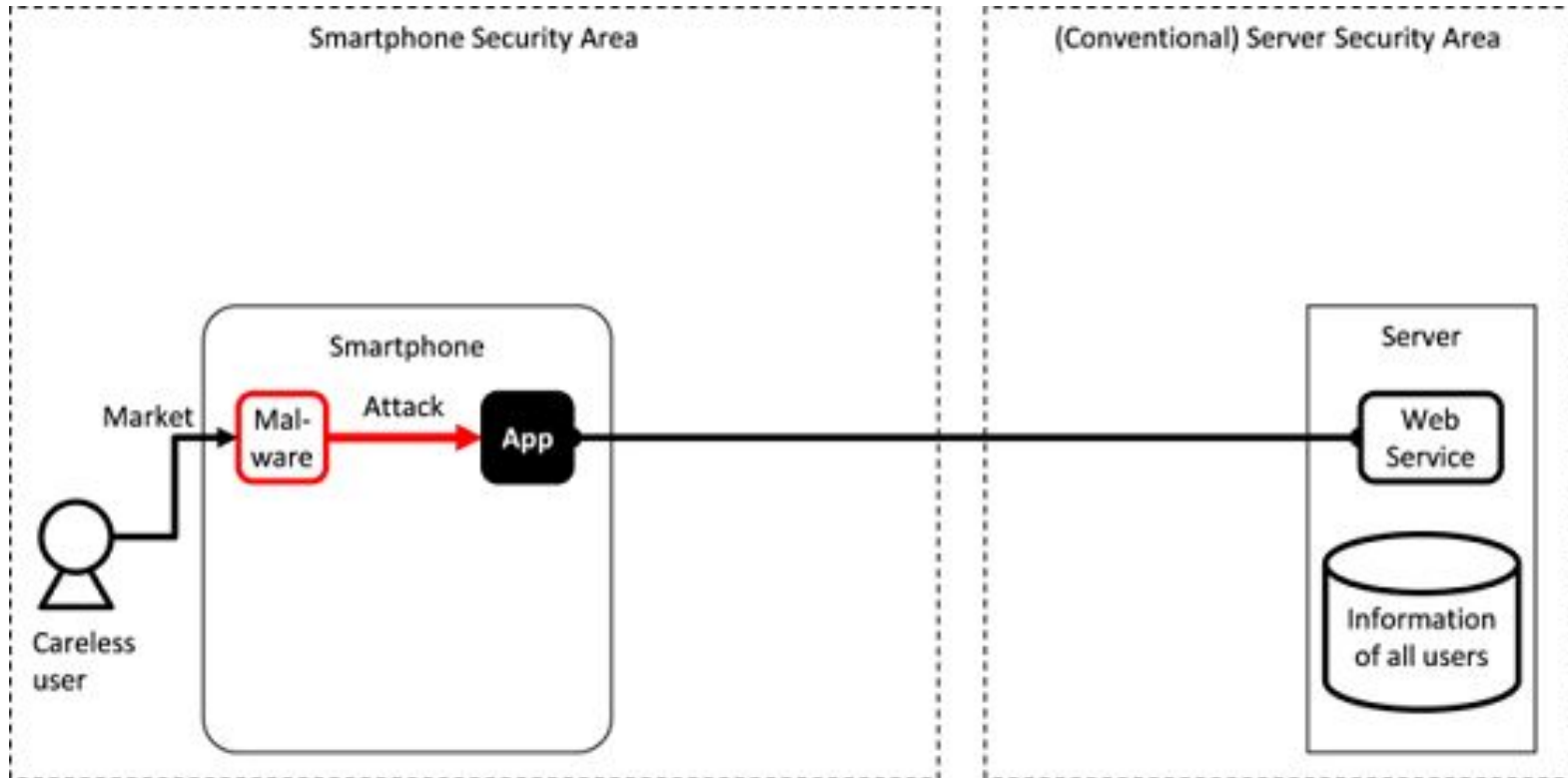
# Typical Mobile Application Behaviour



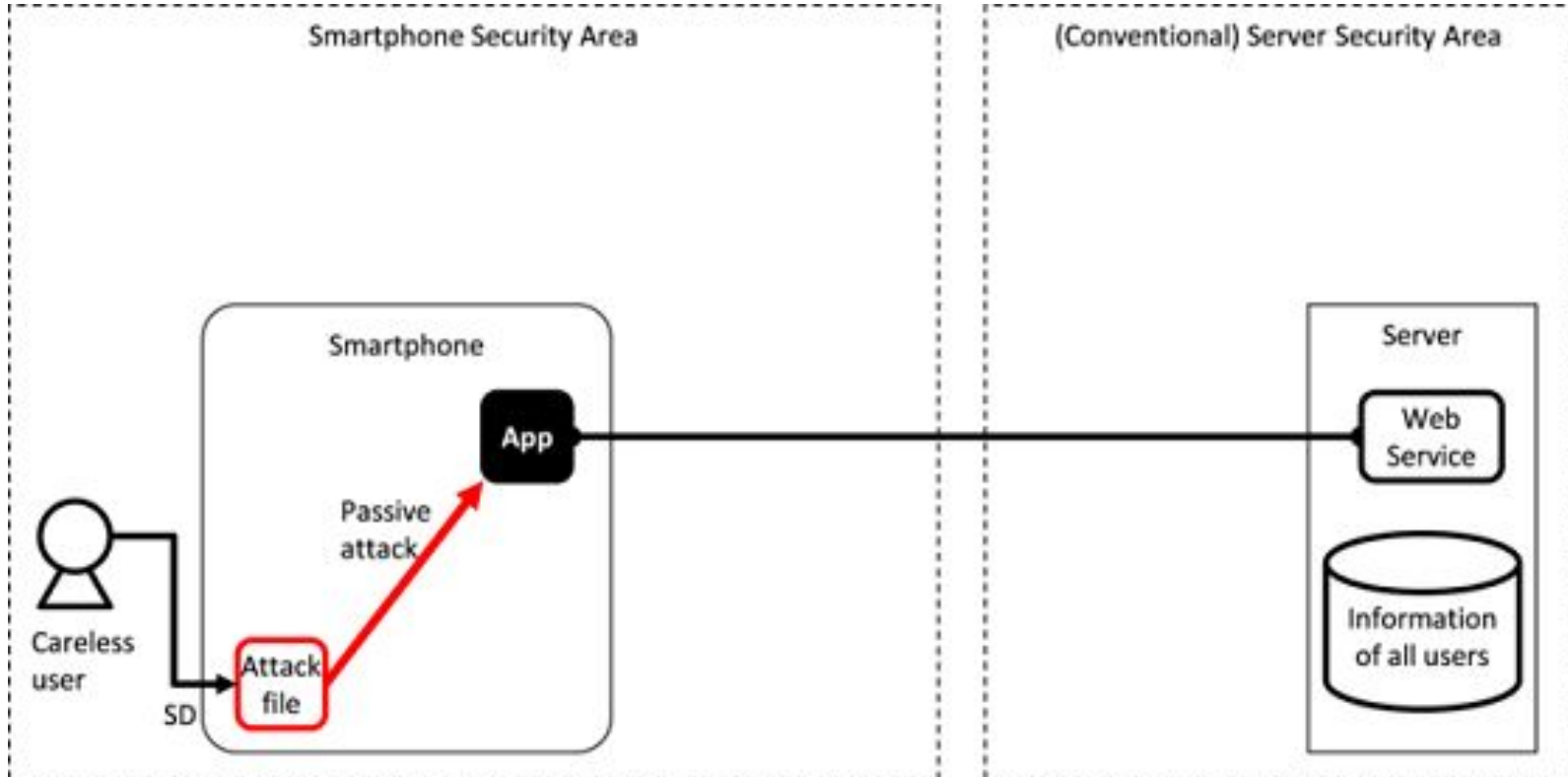
# Network Based Third-Party



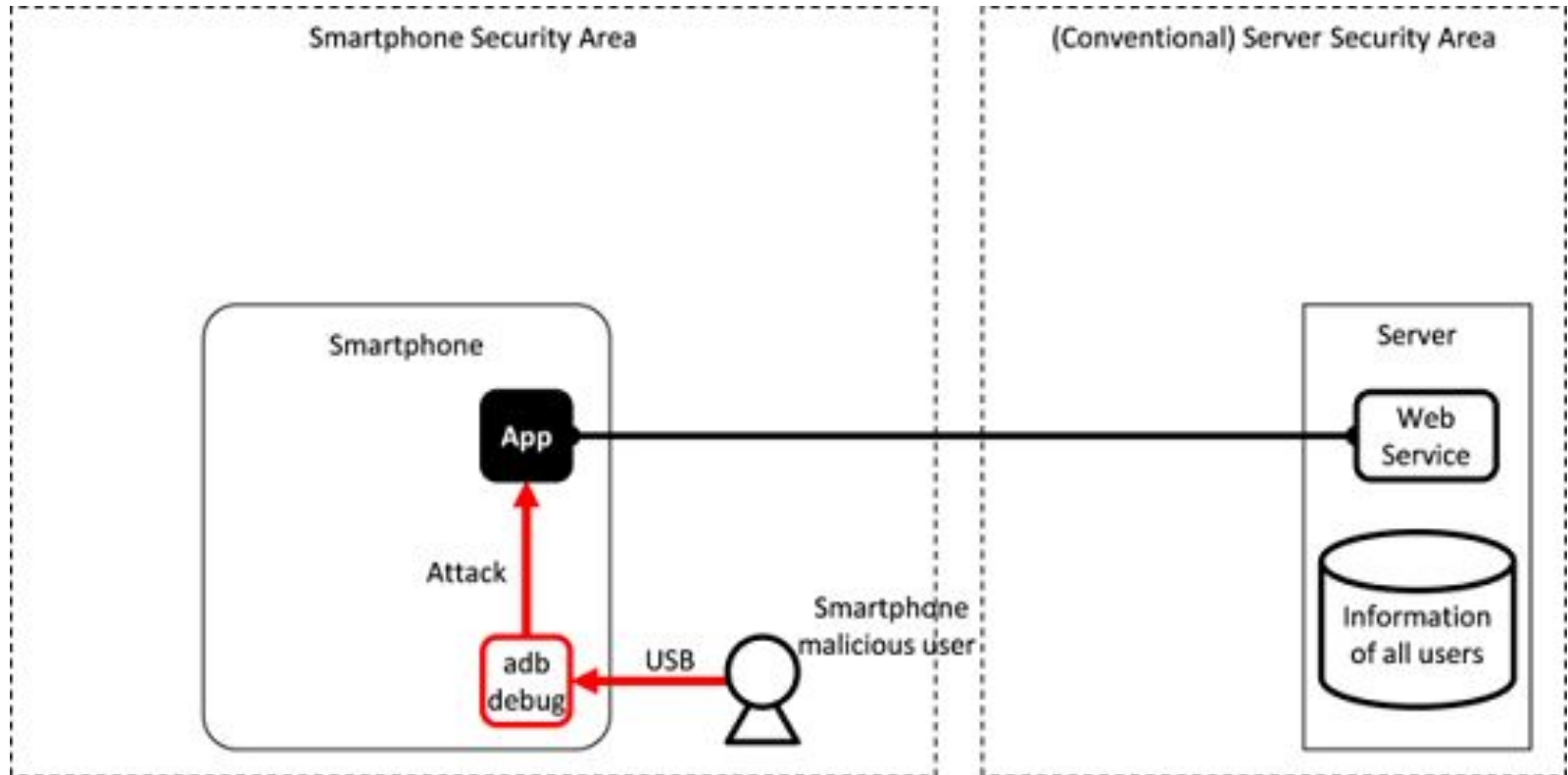
# User Installed Malware



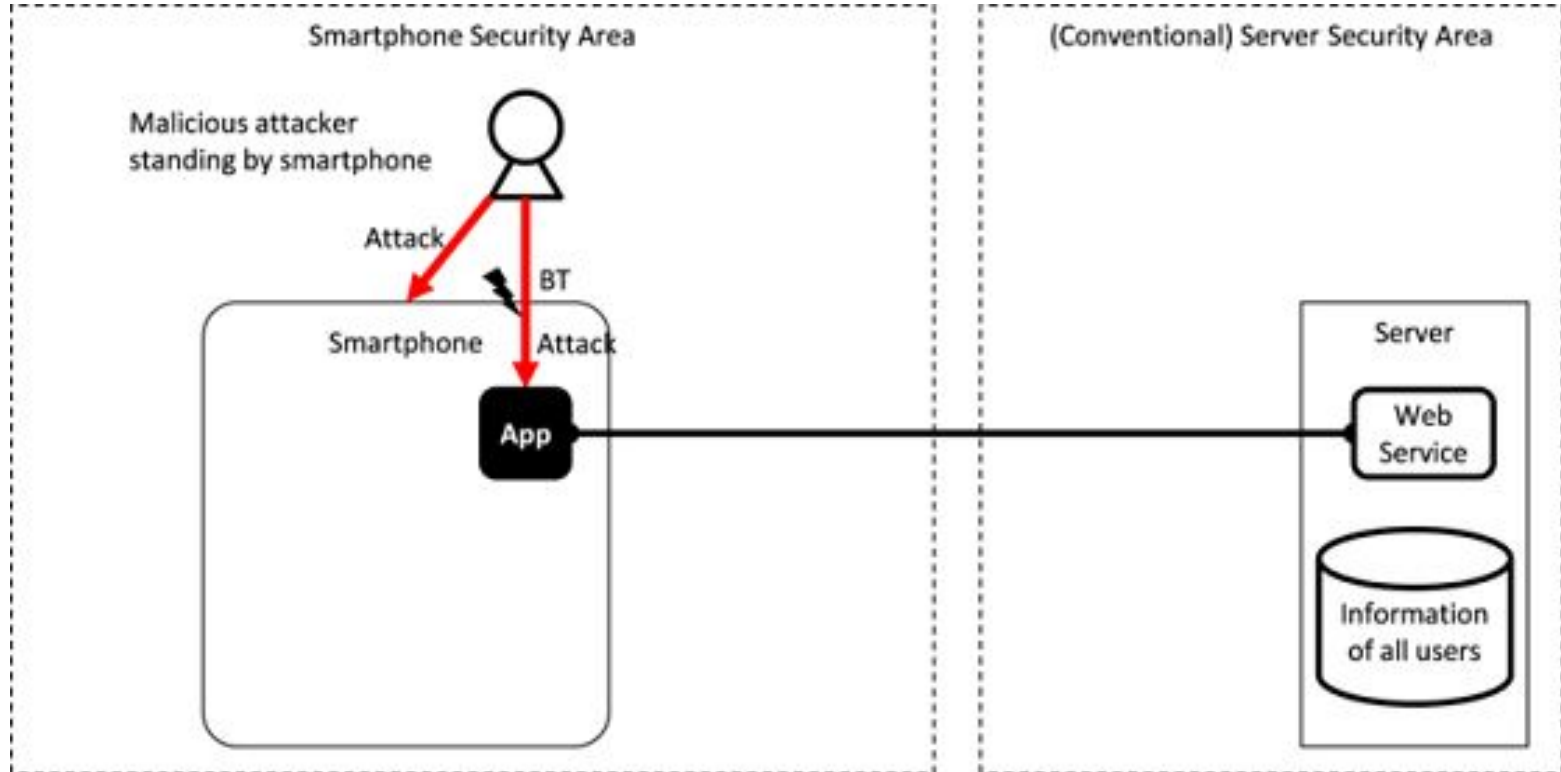
# Malicious File Exploiting Vulnerabilities



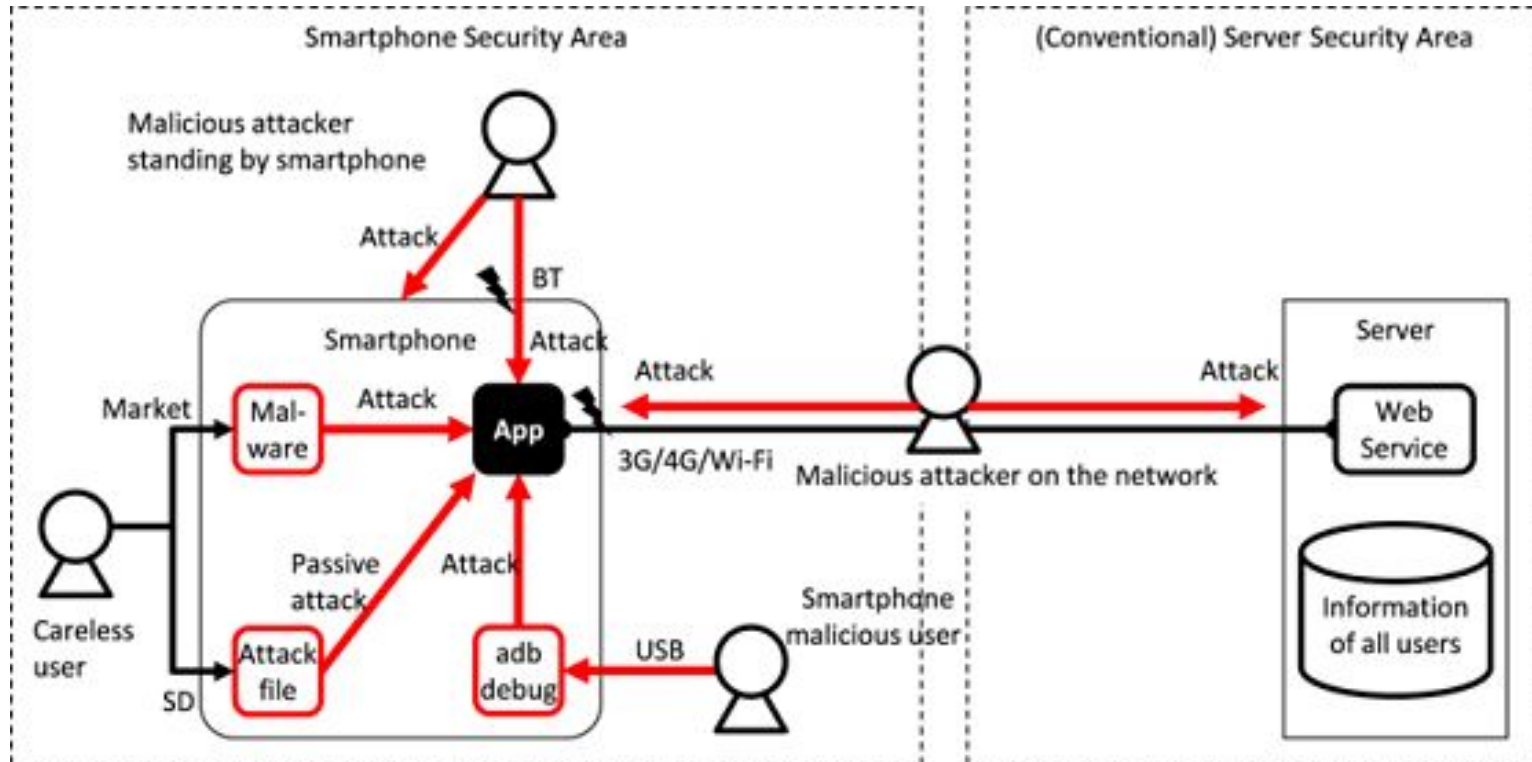
# Malicious User



# Third parties in the proximity



# Summary of Threats



# Secure way of using Smart Phone





# Critical Features of your mobile

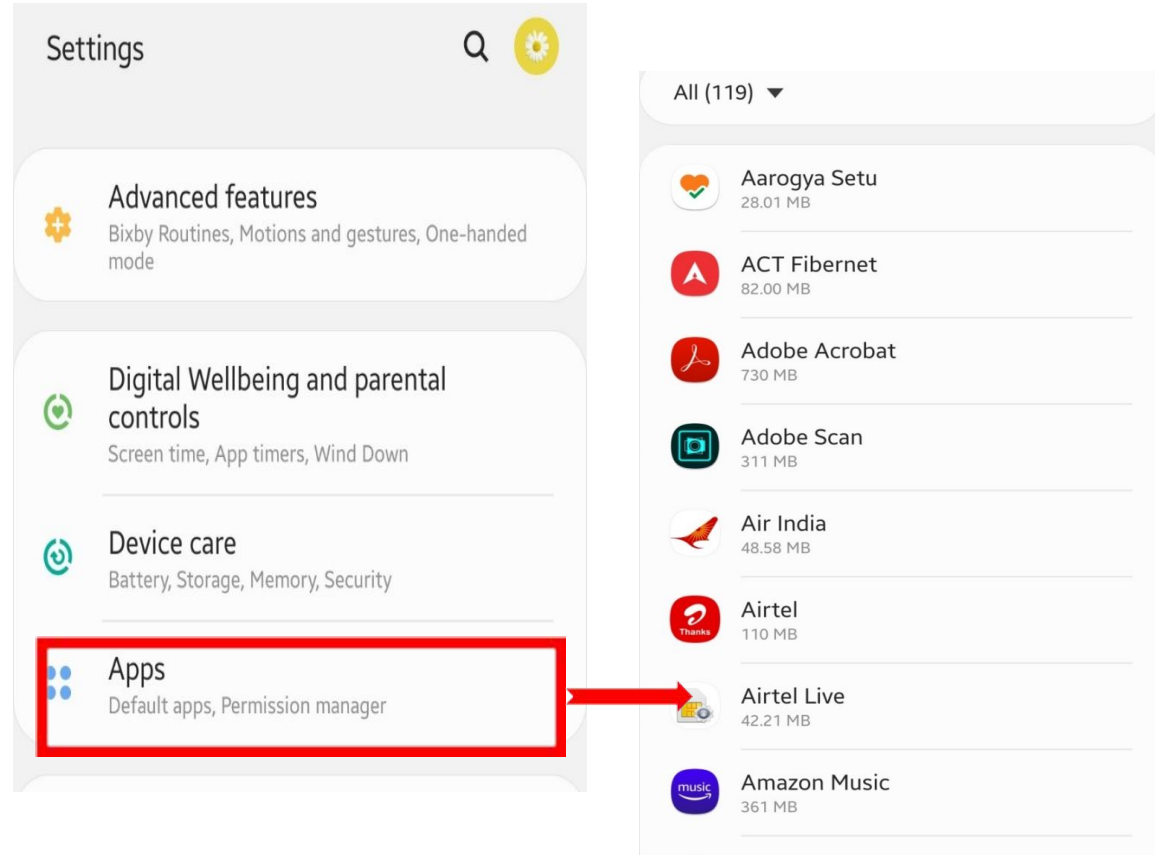
- Messaging – OTP , password reset codes etc.,
- Camera
- Microphone
- Gallery
- Contacts
- Location



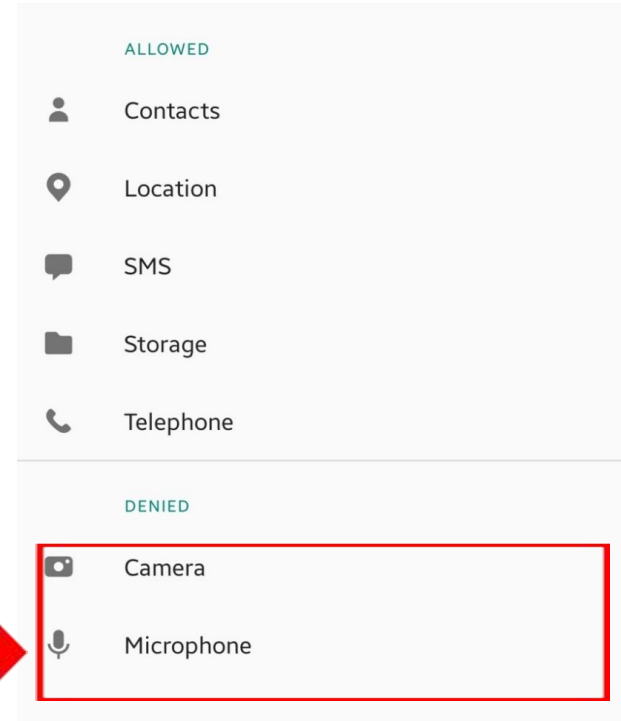
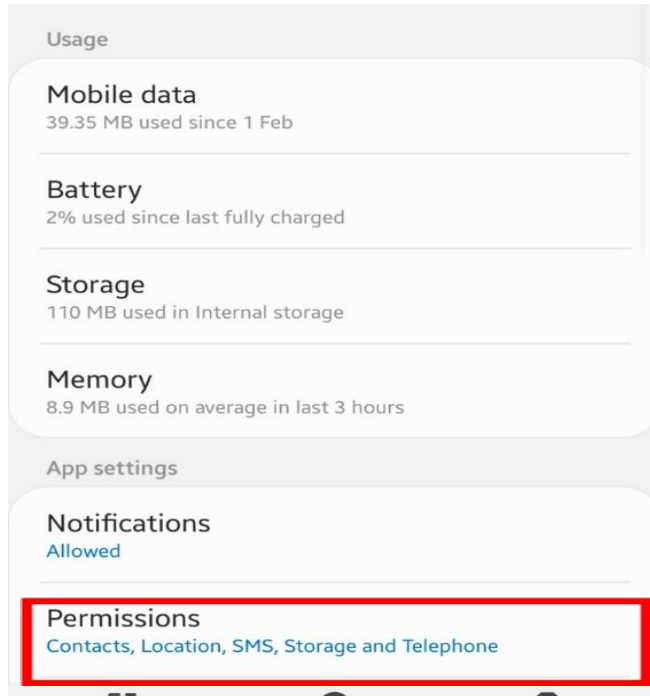
**Regularly Monitor the permissions of critical features in your mobile**

# Monitor Permissions

- Settings - Apps



# Monitor Permissions



*Based on App functionality we should be able to analyze if these permissions are necessary for the app or not*

# Monitor Permissions

The image shows a sequence of two screenshots from an Android phone's settings. The first screenshot displays the 'ALLOWED' permissions list, where the 'Location' permission is highlighted with a red rectangle. A red arrow points from this rectangle to the second screenshot, which shows the 'LOCATION ACCESS FOR THIS APP' settings. In the second screenshot, the 'Allow all the time' option is selected with a radio button.

**ALLOWED**

- Contacts
- Location**
- SMS
- Storage
- Telephone

**DENIED**

- Camera
- Microphone

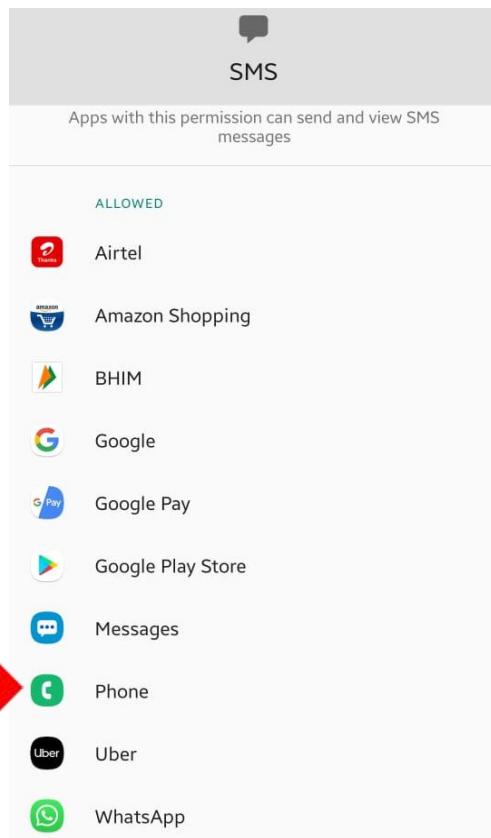
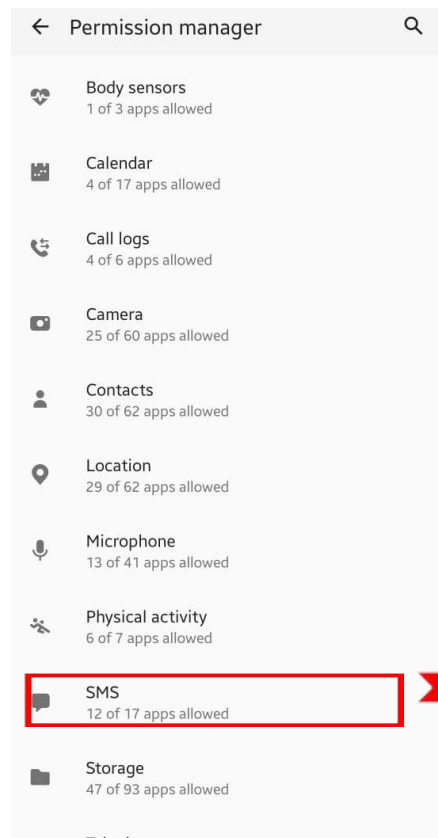
**LOCATION ACCESS FOR THIS APP**

- ☒ Allow all the time
- ☐ Allow only while using the app
- ☐ Deny

[See all apps with this permission](#)

# Monitor all critical permissions at one place

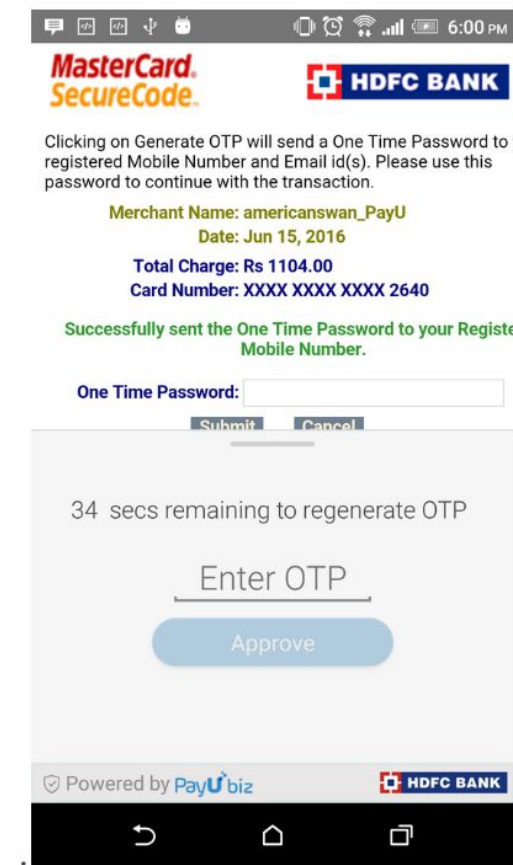
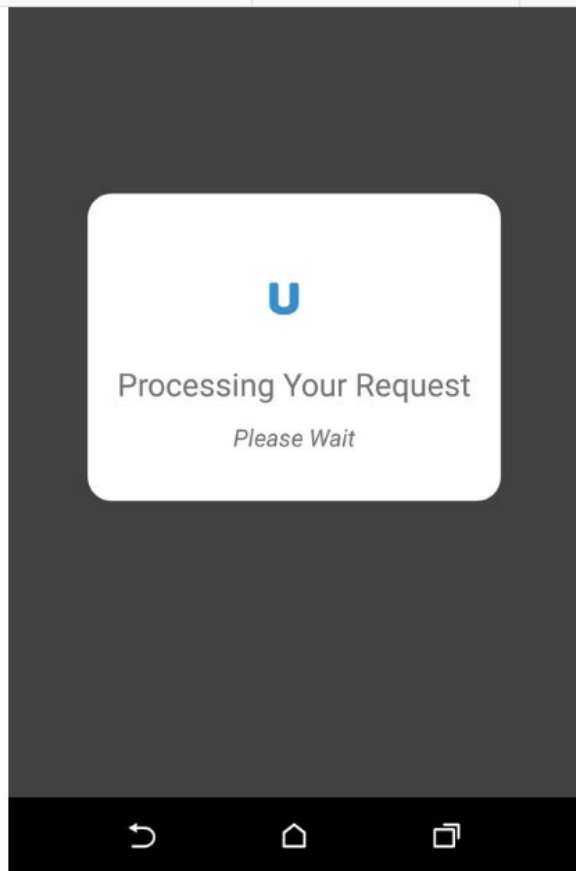
- Permission Manager



# Warning sign

- If OTP is filled automatically by your application while performing any transaction or filling any page, it means that the app is having permissions to read your SMS automatically.
- If in your browser without entering your credentials, you are able to see the logged in state of website, it means your browser saved your credentials

# OTP Autofill looks like



# Removal of SMS permission

← SMS



aha



Aarogya Setu



ACT Fibernet



Airtel



Airtel Xstream



Air India



AJIO



Amazon



A  
B  
C  
D  
E  
F  
G  
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K  
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P  
R  
S  
T  
U  
W



# Installing Apps

- Advertisements could be one of the medium to bring malware to your mobiles or steal personal information
- Sometimes, App download page itself states that it contains advertisements or you can see the reviews to know if it contains advertisements
- Reviews also can help understand Good and Bad about apps



**Avoid installing apps which contains advertisements and read reviews before installing**

# Installing Apps

- Search in stores can lead to malicious/phishing apps.
- For apps related to payment, banking , social networking etc., prefer to download app from company owned website rather than searching in the stores.

# Example – search for PNB banking app

23:26

VoD 4G+ 33%



punjab national bank



All Bank Balance Check – Bank Balance Enqu...

Ad • DoubleRun Technology • Finance

bank balance check

4.1 ★ 5.0 MB 5M+



PNB ONE

PNB • Finance

4.0 ★ 40 MB 1M+



PNB mPassBook

PNB • Finance

4.4 ★ 1.6 MB 1M+



BHIM PNB

PNB • Finance

3.7 ★ 6.7 MB 1M+



PNBIL

Punjab National Bank International Limited

4.1 ★ 29 MB 100K+



PNB Verify

PNB • Finance

4.0 ★ 11 MB 100K+



PNB Mobile Banking

Pacific National Bank • Finance

4.2 ★ 18 MB 100K+



PNB Univ

PNB • Education

3.2 ★ 4.6 MB 100K+



PNB Parivar

PNB • Tools

4.2 ★ 25 MB 100K+



Net Banking App for All India - HDFC - SBI - ...

Infotech • Finance

4.0 ★ 4.6 MB 100K+

# Example - Link from Original Bank website

pnbindia.in

Skip to main content | Tuesday, May 05, 2020 | हिंदी संस्करण | Home | Contact Us | Sitemap | A- | A | A+ | Search

**punjab national bank**  
...the name you can BANK upon!

About Us ▾ Products ▾ E-Services ▾ Investor Info ▾ Customer Care ▾ Suchna

OBC UBI

**How to avoid becoming the victim of Covid-19 scams**

Stay away from

- ₹ Fund transfers to unknown
- 👤 Fund investment opportunities
- 📄 Suspicious links and websites
- 👤 Unreliable sources of information

#BankFromHome

India's second largest public sector bank.

Call 1-800-180-2222 or 1-800-103-2222 Toll Free

**Internet Banking** >

- COVID-19 Package
- Online Services
- Online Payment
- Mobile Banking Apps
- Locate
- Cards
- Cyber Security Tips/Alerts
- Update Aadhar
- Get Your Form 16A

**PNB M Passbook**

**BHIM PNB**

**PNB ONE**

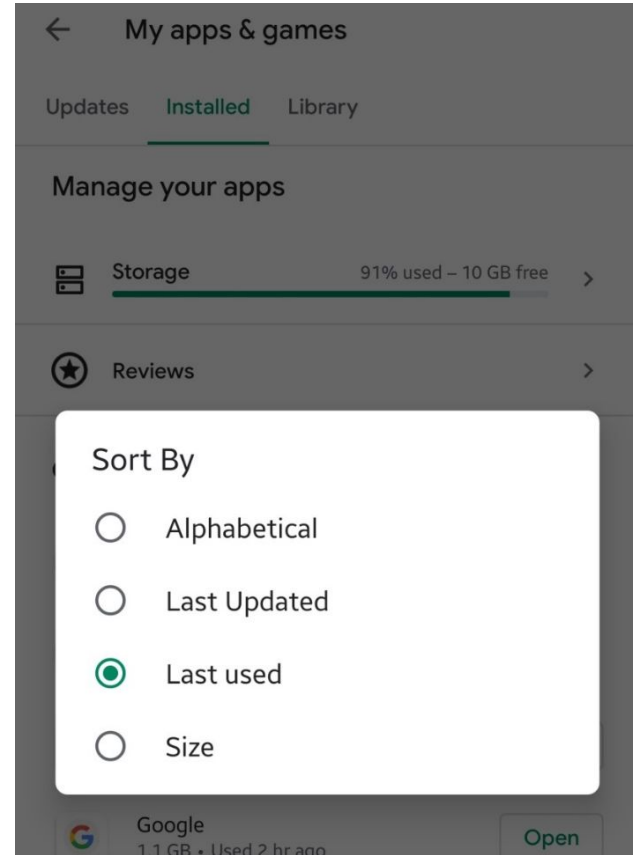
**PNB Bharat QR Merchant**

**BHIM AADHAAR PNB**

**Read More**

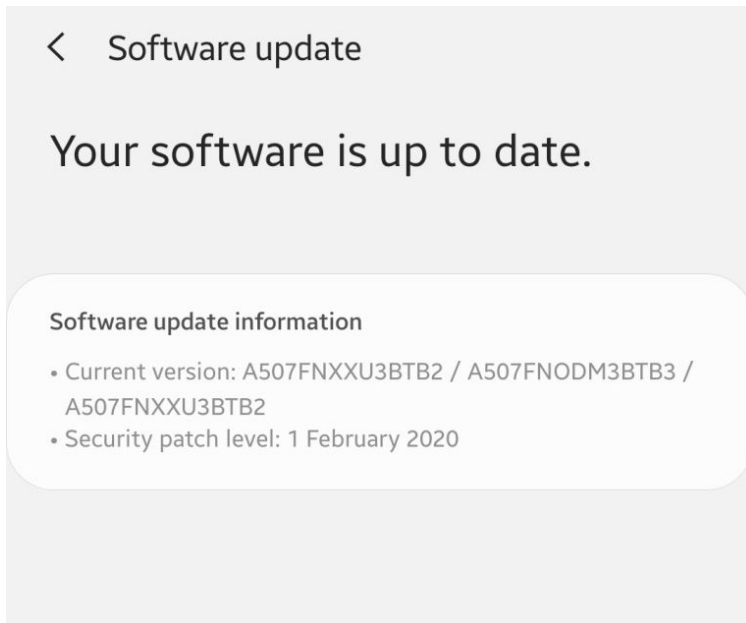
# Unused Apps

- Monitor your mobile for **unused apps** – Look in play store by sorting with Last used to know which apps were not used by you since long time.



# Updated Operating System and Apps

- Ensure your anti-virus and operating system are always updated
- Settings -> Software Update



Ensure Auto Updates are enabled for OS, Apps and Anti-Virus

# Safe Mobile Usage - Recap

1. Regularly Monitor the permissions of critical features of your mobile
2. Avoid installing apps which contains advertisements and read reviews before installing
3. Download apps from genuine link
4. Ensure Auto Updates are enabled for OS, Apps and Anti-Virus

# Tips for your daily practice

1. Turn OFF Bluetooth and WiFi when not in use
2. Set time limit and Lock mobile automatically when not in use
3. Prefer PIN/ finger print / face recognition locks as supported by your mobile.
4. Pattern lock are to be avoided - beware of shoulder surfing , screen reading.
5. Track your mobile for unnecessary and unused apps



# How to protect your Smart Phones

- Always update your devices with the latest software
- Especially, install all security patches provided by the OEMs to patch various security threats
- Never visit any shady websites by clicking on the links you have received over SMS, Whatsapp or by any other means
- Never install apps or software from unfamiliar publishers or from third-party app-stores
- Never use public WiFi hotspots for performing critical transactions

# Signs of Infected Device

- Device overheating
- Rapid battery drainage
- Excessive internet usage without active apps running



*Anti Virus*



**STAY SAFE ONLINE**

ऑनलाइन सुरक्षा कवच



*Don't Click on  
Unknown Links*



*Don't share  
your **mobile** and  
confidential data*



*Two-factor  
Authentication*



*Strong Password  
and Pin*

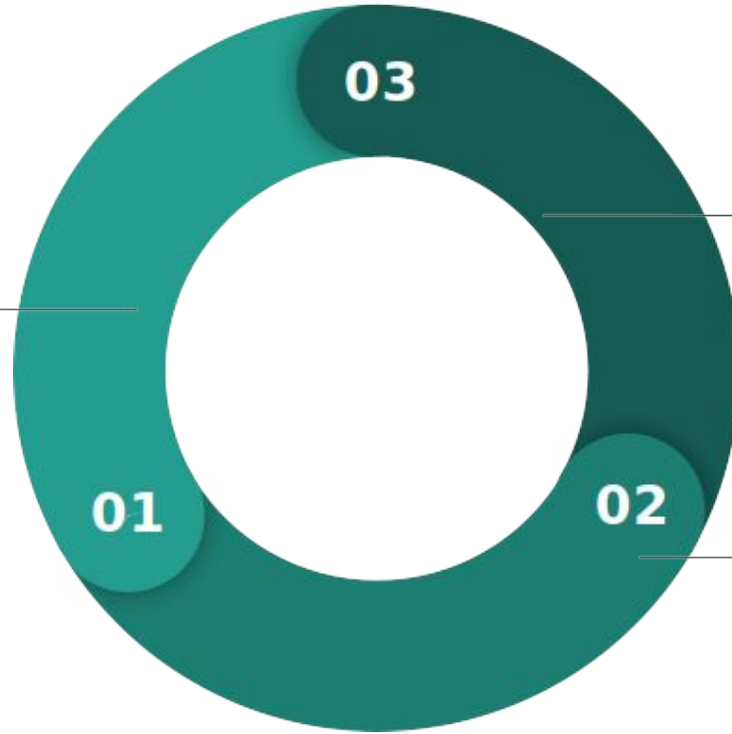


*Don't install  
malicious apps*



***Stay Safe Online***

**Call 📞 1930** (Helpline number) to register any complaint about cybercrime.



You can also file your complaint 📝 online through **[www.cybercrime.gov.in](http://www.cybercrime.gov.in)**

You can also file your complaint at the **nearest police station**



[HOME](#)[CITIZEN CENTRIC SERVICES](#)[ABOUT](#)[KEEP YOURSELF AWARE](#)[FAQs](#)[IN SOCIAL MEDIA](#)[IMAGE GALLERY](#)

## Citizen Centric Services

New



**REPORT  
SUSPECTED FRAUD  
COMMUNICATION**

CHAKSHU



**BLOCK YOUR LOST  
/ STOLEN MOBILE**

CEIR



**KNOW YOUR  
MOBILE  
CONNECTIONS**

TAFcop



**KNOW YOUR  
MOBILE / IMEI  
VERIFICATION**

KYM



**REPORT INCOMING  
INTERNATIONAL  
CALL WITH INDIAN  
NUMBER**

RICWIN



**KNOW YOUR  
WIRELINE  
INTERNET SERVICE  
PROVIDER (ISP)**

KYI



## About Sanchar Saathi



दूरसंचार विभाग  
DEPARTMENT OF  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS



india.gov.in



CEIR SERVICES ▾

APPLICATIONS ▾

CONTACT US

HELP

PUBLIC NOTICES

HOW TO BLOCK?

LOGIN



# LOST YOUR MOBILE?

Put in your details and let the **Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR)** help you trace and block your lost or stolen device

Find out if your mobile device is genuine or not by using KYM App



Block Stolen/Lost Mobile



Un-Block Found Mobile



Check Request Status



Forgot Request ID

CEIR Dashboard





दूरसंचार विभाग  
DEPARTMENT OF  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS

To exit full screen, move mouse to top of screen or press F11



india.gov.in



HOME

CITIZEN CENTRIC SERVICES

ABOUT

KEEP YOURSELF AWARE

FAQs

IN SOCIAL MEDIA

IMAGE GALLERY



## चक्षु - Report Suspected Fraud Communication

### Medium of Suspected Fraud Communication

Please select how you received the communication \*

Medium  
Select Medium



### Suspected Fraud Communication Details

All \* marked fields are mandatory.

Select Suspected Fraud Communication Category

Category  
Select Category



# **Social Media Security**



# Privacy Setting Weaknesses

Many users are unaware of the privacy settings on social media platforms, or they may not fully understand how their data is being used.

This can lead to unintentional exposure of personal information and increased vulnerability to threats.



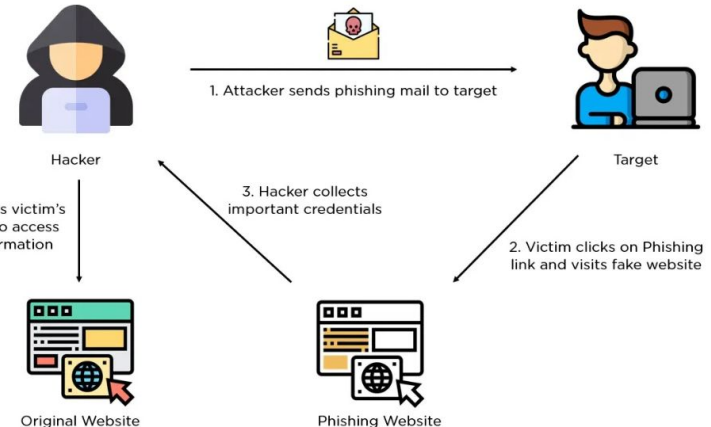
# Hacking and Account Takeovers:

Social media accounts are frequently targeted by hackers who aim to steal personal information or spread malware.

Attackers may use stolen credentials or phishing techniques to gain unauthorized access to accounts.



Phishing Attacks



# Cyberbullying and Harassment:

Social media can be a platform for cyberbullying, harassment, and online stalking.

Attackers can use social media to spread rumors, share private information, or send threatening messages.



# Facebook

- Set post visibility
- Hide your email, phone,
- Disable face recognition and limit app access.



or “Only Me.”  
from your profile.

To review privacy settings:

Meta

## Privacy Centre

Privacy Centre home

Search

Common privacy settings

Privacy topics

More privacy resources

Privacy Policy

Other policies and articles



Review settings

### Privacy topics

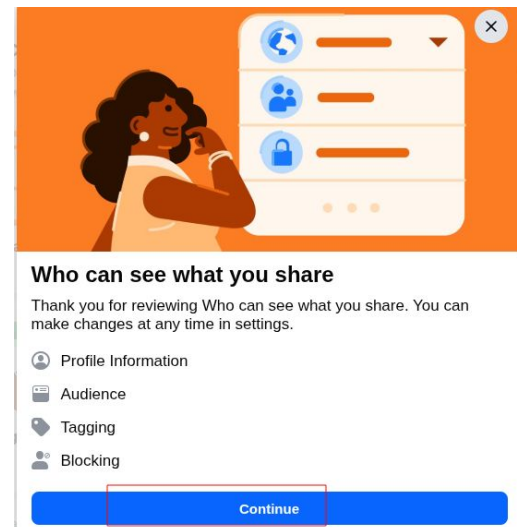
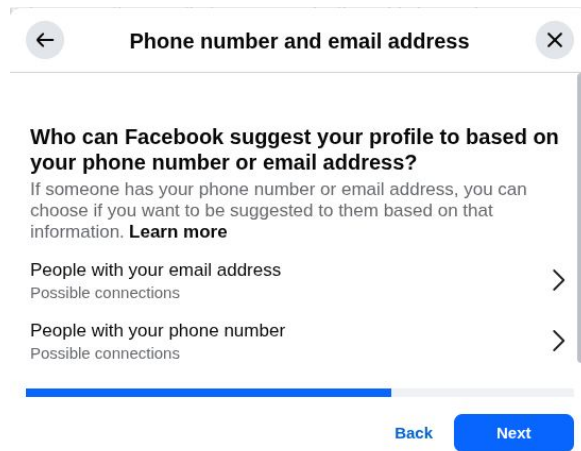
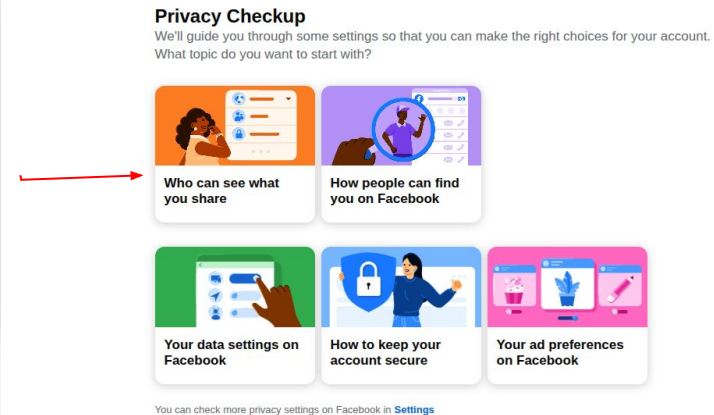
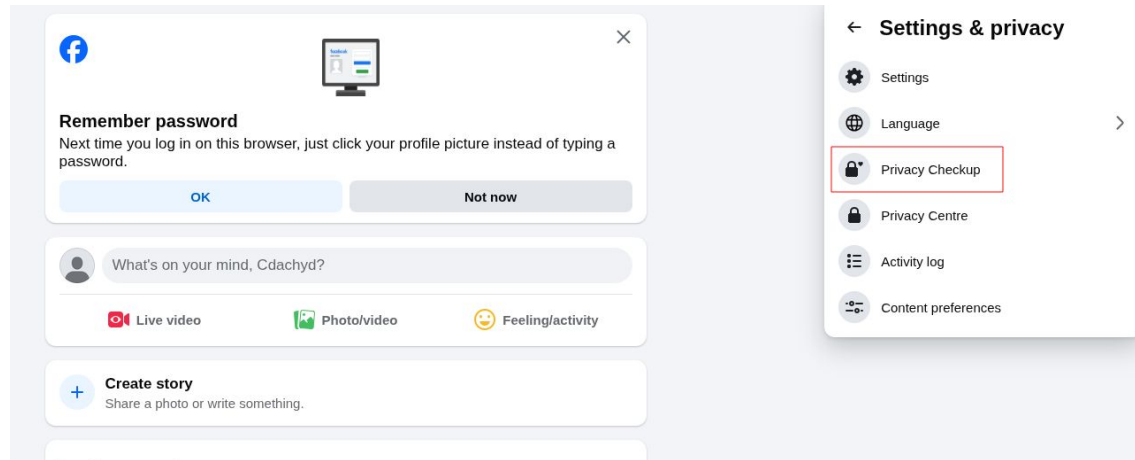
Get answers to your privacy questions and manage your privacy in a way that's right for you.



Generative AI  
Generative AI at Meta



Safety  
Manage what you share to feel safer  
using our products



**Mobile Security Solutions**  
**@**  
**C-DAC Hyderabad**

# Mobile Security Products Developed @ C-DAC



## 1. M-Kavach 2

- Mobile Device Security solution for Android devices
- Targeted for the General Public of the country
- 1.8 Million+ downloads
  - Google Playstore & MSeva Appstore
- Other Users
  - Recommended by Headquarters - Integrated Defence Staff - Ministry of Defence for Internal usage
  - Indian Army



## 2. M-Prabandh

- Mobile Device Management solution for Android devices
  - Centralized Management Dashboard
  - Security Policy Management
  - Role-based Access Control
- Targeted for the Enterprise Users, Strategic Users and SMEs of the country
- Shri. Jayesh Ranjan, IAS, Principal Secretary, Government of Telangana, and Shri. Raja Neravati Chief Product & Technology Officer, Wearables, Titan company, launched M-Prabandh on Feb 14th, 2024 at C-DAC, Hyderabad



## 3. Vishleshak

- Android based threat analysis platform
  - Evade & bypass strong anti-reversing defenses
  - Insights of Android applications
- Targeted for the Security Analysts, LEAs & Developers
- 1000+ Apps analysed till date
- Deployed at IB, DCyA, CERT-in, MeitY, NCIIPC, Army Intelligence and other User Agency



## 4. Parikshan

- Mobile App Security Analysis
  - Static & Dynamic Analysis of Mobile (Android) Apps
  - Identify security vulnerabilities and perform exploitation for few of them
  - A detailed Security Audit report as an outcome
- Targeted for the Security Analysts, Developers & Security Audit Labs
- Launched by Shri S Krishnan, Secretary, MeitY on 03rd February, 2024



# ISEA Ph-III (at a glance)

**Goal :** Human Resource Development for Safe, Trusted and Secure Cyber-space

**Scope: Capacity / Capability Building in following areas:**

- ❑ Generating Skilled & Certified Cyber Security Professionals (**Creating Robust Mechanism for Training & Certification of CISOs, Dy.CISOs etc.**)
- ❑ Grooming students towards Products/Solutions development in **Cyber Security (Driving Ideation & Innovation activities for students)**
- ❑ Strengthening Research & Education in Information Security (**Enhance Capacity/Capabilities in emerging areas; Academic Activities)**
- ❑ **Creating Mass Awareness on Cyber Security** (Cyber Aware Digital Naagriks)
- ❑ **Establishing Common Infrastructure & Shared Resources** for synergizing ISEA activities at a national level.





# Training & Certification of CISOs: Overview

## Goal

- Generating Highly Skilled and Certified Cyber Security Professionals – CISOs, etc.

## Objectives

- Creating a Robust Mechanism for Training and Certification of Professionals in Cyber Security

## Target Audience

- CISOs, Deputy CISOs, Associate team of CISOs of Government and other sectors (MSMEs)

## Deliverables

- 45,000 professionals from Government/other sectors to be trained/certified/re-certified over 5 years

## Implementing Agencies

## Certification

- C-DAC Hyderabad (nodal agency) jointly with select C-DAC & NIELIT Centers
- ISEA (C-DAC, Hyderabad) endorsed by CERT-In/ NIC

## 13 domains

### Core Domains (5)

1. Systems, Network & Communication Security	2. Information Security & Security Engineering Core Competencies	3. Asset and Access Control Management	4. Information Security Audit and Assessment	5. Operations Security
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### Essential Domain (1)

6. Business and Strategic Management



### Specialized Domains (7)

7. Secure Software Development	8. Governance, Risk & Compliance	9. Telecom Security	10. Cyber Security for BFSI Sector	11. IOT/ IIOT Security	12. OT / ICS Security	13. Cyber Security & Forensics for LEAs / Judiciary
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## Core domains

Systems, Network & Communication Security

Information Security and Security Engineering Core Competencies

Asset & Access Control Management

Information Security Audit and Assessment

Operations Security

## Essential domain

Business and Strategic Management

## Specialized domains

Secure Software

Governance, Risk and Compliance (Sectoral Perspective)

Cyber Security for Banking, Fin. Services & Insurance (BFSI) Sector

Internet of Things (IoT) / Industrial IoT Security

Sector Specific Operational Technology (OT) / Industrial Control Systems (ICS) Security

Cyber Security & Forensics for LEAs and Judiciary

**CISO**

5 Core

+ 1 Essential

+ Specialized (any one)

**Dy. CISO**

5 Core

---

+ Specialized (any one)

**Associates** 5 Core



**THANK**

**YOU!**