

समाचार पत्रों से चयित अंश Newspapers Clippings

दैनिक सामयिक अभिज्ञता सेवा

A Daily Current Awareness Service



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High Alert Sounded In Defence, Security Forces for Whatsapp Viruses

Central security agencies have alerted defence and security personnel against the malicious activity of a virus, falsely bearing the name of elite organisations like NDA and NIA, that may breach and hack into their personal information and banking data.

An advisory issued to the defence and security establishments in the country States that the two notorious virus file are circulating over instant messaging application Whatsapp and are capable to sneak into personal details of the user, especially the men in uniform.

The two files, as per the advisory accessed by PTI, are — “NDA-ranked-8th-toughest-College-in-the-world-to-get-into.Xls” and “NIA-selection-order-Xls”.

Officials privy to the contents of the advisory said the NDA here is understood to be indicating to army’s National Defence Academy in Khadakwasla in Pune while NIA to the premier terrorist incidents’ probe organisation — the National Investigation Agency.

It is understood that the malicious virus-laden file is formatted in the form of ‘MS Excel’ file majorly, but officials did not rule out it’s aliases in the ‘MS Word’ or ‘.PDF’ formats to attack a user’s phone and data.

The advisory added that the corrupt virus files are “programmed” to illegally extract personal information of the user, their login credentials and banking details like passwords and PIN numbers.

“As these two organisations are very popular and known within the country and abroad and there is a curiosity to know more about them, it is possible that it may affect the mobile phones of people interested in these subjects. However, it has been analysed that the men and women in defence, paramilitary and police forces could be the target groups,” they said.

Officials said the advisory has now been shared with the field formations of these security forces so that the troops and officers on the ground are made aware and alerted against this virus which has been seen prowling in the instant messaging cyber space recently.

The personnel have also been asked to report these incidents to their Information technology cells, they said.



US offer big-ticket military tie-ups

By Rajat Pandit

Wants To Go For Joint Development Of Futuristic Choppers, Infantry Vehicles

The US has now proposed joint development and production of futuristic military helicopters as well as infantry combat vehicles in the first such big-ticket programmes under the Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI) with India.

Top government sources said the two projects would be discussed threadbare in the ensuing DTTI meeting (probably February) after the Donald Trump administration takes over in the US on January 20.

India has already shown interest in the US offer for participation in its “future vertical-lift (FVL) aircraft” programme, which includes development of five different helicopters or “capability sets” over the next 15 years at a cost of around \$8 billion, said the sources.

MILITARY BUSINESS

DEFENCE DEALS

US has bagged Indian arms contracts worth over \$15 billion since 2007:

12 long-range Poseidon-8I maritime patrol aircraft (\$3.2 billion)

10 C-17 Globemaster-III strategic airlift aircraft (\$4.1 billion)

13 C-130J Super Hercules aircraft (\$2.1 billion)

22 Apache attack & 15 Chinook heavy-lift helicopters (\$3.1 billion)

145 M-777 ultra-light howitzers (\$737 million)



JOINT PROJECTS

Defence Technology & Trade Initiative (DTTI) launched in 2012

7 joint working groups (JWGs) exploring collaborative projects are:

- Jet Engine Technology
- Aircraft Carrier Technologies
- Naval Systems
- Air Systems
- Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance
- Chemical-Biological Protection
- Other Systems

Fate of 6 projects identified till now:

- Mobile electric hybrid generators & NBC warfare protection gear for soldiers worth around \$2 million finalised for co-production
- India has rejected Cheal (Raven) mini-drones & 'Roll-on, roll-off' modules for C-130J Super Hercules aircraft
- Talks underway on digital helmet mounted displays & joint biological tactical detection systems

MEGA CO-PRODUCTION OFFERS

- 5 different types of new-generation helicopters
- Futuristic Infantry Combat Vehicles
- US also pushing F/A-18 or F-16 fighter production line under 'Make in India' policy

The US has also suggested that the future infantry combat vehicle (FICV) project can be a trilateral venture with the inclusion of Israel. India is in a wait-and-watch mode about this proposal since it's trying to finalise its own Rs 60,000crore FICV project, with two private sector players and the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) in the reckoning for prototype development, as was earlier reported by TOI. The earlier projects offered by the US under the DTTI were quite modest in nature despite India looking for "unique and transformative military technologies"

to give its armed forces a decisive edge over its rivals. With the US now officially designating India as a "major defence partner" at par with its closest allies to facilitate the transfer of advanced technology, the two new projects are quite ambitious in scope.

But India is unlikely to go in for all the five types of helicopters, which range from light-weight to heavy-lift ones. India and Russia, for instance, have already finalised the production of 200 Kamov-226T light-utility helicopters worth \$1 billion, while Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. is also independently tasked to develop 187 similar choppers.

India has also inked \$3.1 billion deal for 22 Apache attack and 15 Chinook heavy-lift helicopters from the US, which are slated for delivery in 2019-2020. Nevertheless, the Indian armed forces are in the hunt for 1,200 helicopters of different types over the next 15-20 years to replace their ageing fleets at an estimated cost of over Rs 1.5 lakh crore.

"We can choose the kind of helicopters that suit our interests. Moreover, one to two products are also being identified under each of the seven joint working groups under the DTTI," said a source. Of the first four "pathfinder projects", India has finalised two -mobile generators and nextgen protective ensemble -worth \$2 million.

नासा के क्यूरियोसिटी अंतरिक्षयान ने मंगल पर बैंगनी चट्टान का पता लगाया

वाशिंगटन, (भाषा): नासा के मंगल क्यूरियोसिटी अंतरिक्षयान ने लाल ग्रह के पर्वतीय क्षेत्र को करीब से कैद किया है जिसके अगले हिस्से में बैंगनी रंग की चट्टानें नजर आ रही हैं।

अंतरिक्षयान के मास्ट कैमरा (मास्टकैम) से ली गयी तस्वीर में माउंट शार्प के निकट बैंगनी रंग की चट्टानें नजर आ रही हैं। दृश्य में ऊंची परत समेत मध्य दूरी भी नजर आ रही है, जहां भविष्य में मिशन को पहुंचना है। नासा ने बताया कि पर्वतों के रंग में अंतर माउंट शार्प की संरचना संबंधी विविधता की तरफ इशारा करता है। अमेरिकी अंतरिक्ष एजेंसी ने कहा कि अन्य पर्वतों के आगे के हिस्से का रंग बैंगनी पाया गया वहीं क्यूरियोसिटी के रासायनिक और खनिज उपकरण ने हेमाटाइट का पता लगाया है।

