Android users Beware

Fake COVID Vaccine Registration App through SMS with Malware

SMS Worm that tricks android users into downloading fake COVID-19 app
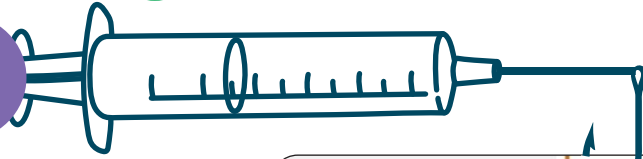
Malware (short for malicious software) is becoming one of the biggest threats online world and fraudsters has been using for largest cyber-attacks. COVID-19 circumstances are opened many gates for fraudsters to lure the Internet users. A SMS worm targeting the Android users in India has reported. The users were confronted with the SMS worm for downloading a fake COVID-19 vaccination or restricting access to private accounts and services and exposing personal data. The malware campaign is currently targeting India.
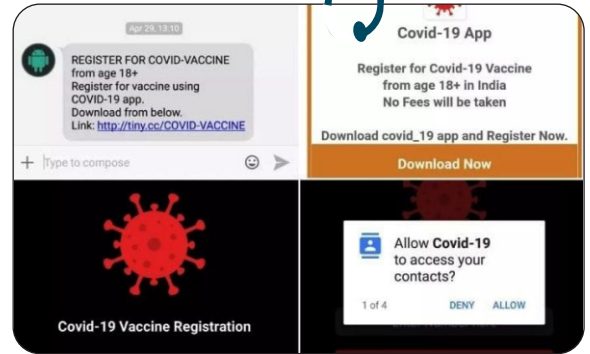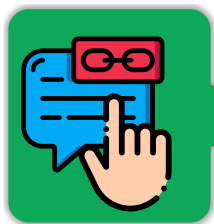

Modus Operandi

1 The individuals receive fake messages with application download links from fraudsters regarding registration for COVID 19 vaccination.

2 Upon clicking the link a COVID vaccine register app link, the malware is installed into the system

3 This fake app gains seeks unnecessary permissions, to enable attackers to gain unauthorized access to device and data

4 The fraudster try to collect the personal details or restrict access to private accounts and services and cheat people.

Threats

The fake app can spread these fake SMS messages with malicious links to other contacts of the victim.

Advisory

- Don't click on suspicious links or download attachments from unknown sources
- Never fall into the trap of random calls, messages, emails or links spreading fake information regarding COVID vaccination or other related information.
- Never share your personal /private information like OTP, PIN, Aadhar no., credit/debit card details with anyone.
- Do not forward any messages/ links/information without properly verifying its authenticity.
- Install updates and security patches as soon as possible to protect against malware and other security risks
- Use only authorized goverment websites for COVID vaccination registration

For Authorised registration for Covid-19 vaccination and updates
CoWIN portal - www.cowin.gov.in | Aarogya Setu / UMANG Mobile application only