

# Social Engineering Techniques and Preventive Measures

By

*Karanpreet Kaur*

*Cyber Security Expert*

*CDAC, Mohali*



# Objectives

The objective of this presentation is to educate and create awareness amongst the community on use of Technology, Internet Media and its implications on possible cyber crimes.

- Understand the principles of social engineering
- Define the goals of social engineering
- Recognize the signs of social engineering
- Identify ways to protect yourself from social engineering



www.isea.gov.in

# Home Security



www.  
**InfoSec**  
awareness.in

# Cyber Security



# Types of Hackers

- 1) **White Hat** – Good guys. Report hacks/vulnerabilities to appropriate people.
- 2) **Black Hat** – Only interested in personal goals, regardless of impact.
- 3) **Gray Hat** – Somewhere in between.

## Script Kiddies

- Someone that calls themselves a ‘hacker’ but really isn’t

## Ethical Hacker

- Someone hired to hack a system to find vulnerabilities and report on them.
- Also called a ‘**sneaker**’

# What is Social Engineering

1. At its core it is manipulating a person into knowingly or unknowingly giving up information; essentially 'hacking' into a person to steal valuable information.
  - Psychological manipulation
  - Trickery or Deception for the purpose of information gathering

# What is Social Engineering

2. It is a way for criminals to gain access to information systems. The purpose of social engineering is usually to secretly install spyware, other malicious software or to trick persons into handing over passwords and/or other sensitive financial or personal information

# What is Social Engineering

3. Social engineering is one of the most effective routes to stealing confidential data from organizations, according to Siemens Enterprise Communications, based in Germany. In a recent Siemens test, 85 percent of office workers were duped by engineering.

*“Most employees are utterly unaware that they are being manipulated,” says Colin Greenlees, security and counter-fraud consultant at Siemens.*

# What are they looking for

- Obtaining simple information such as your pet's name, where you're from, the places you've visited; information that you'd give out freely to your friends.
  - Think of yourself as a walking computer, full of valuable information about yourself. You've got a name, address, and valuables. Now categorize those items like a business does. Personally identifiable data, financial information, cardholder data, health insurance data, credit reporting data, and so on...



# What are they looking for

- Take a close look at some of the 'secure' sites you log into. Some have a 'secret question' you have to answer, if you cannot remember your username or password. The questions seem pretty tough for an outsider looking into trying to hack into your account.
  - ✓ What's the name of your first pet?
  - ✓ What is your maiden name?
  - ✓ When was your mother/father born?
  - ✓ Where were you born?

***Do these sound familiar?***

# Tactics

1. **Pretexting** – Creating a fake scenario
2. **Phishing** – Send out bait to fool victims into giving away their information
3. **Fake Websites** – Molded to look like the real thing. Log in with real credentials that are now compromised
4. **Fake Pop-up** – Pops up in front of real web site to obtain user credentials



www.isea.gov.in

# Social Engineering methods

www.**InfoSec**  
awareness.in

- 0 Dumpster Diving
- 0 Shoulder surfing
- 0 Baiting
- 0 Vishing
- 0 Phishing
- 0 Whaling

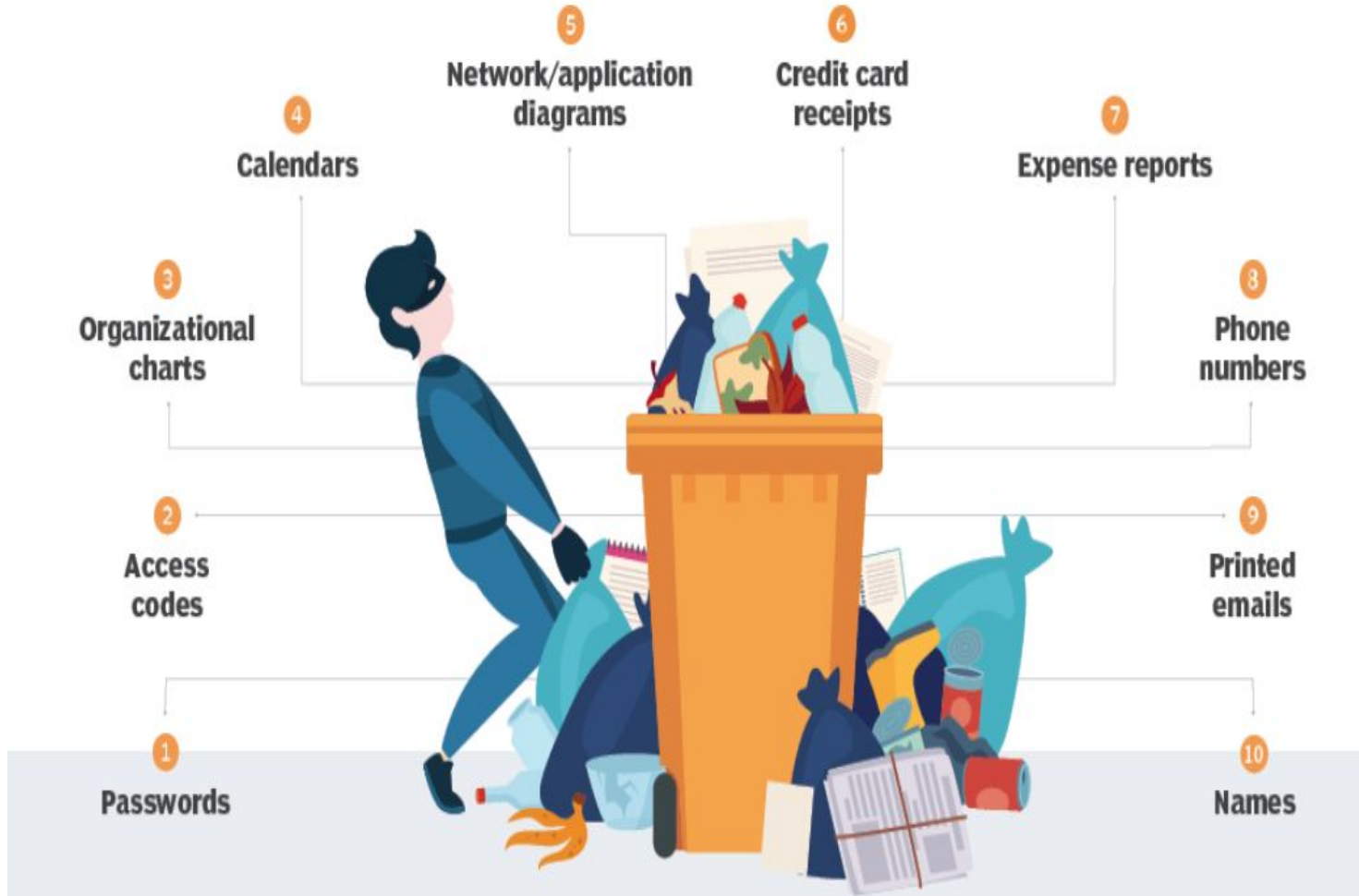


Created by Mims Bard  
www.mimsbard.com



# Dumpster diving

This entails combing through someone else's trash to find treasures—or in the tech world, discarded sensitive information that could be used in an illegal manner. Information that should be securely discarded includes, but is not limited to:



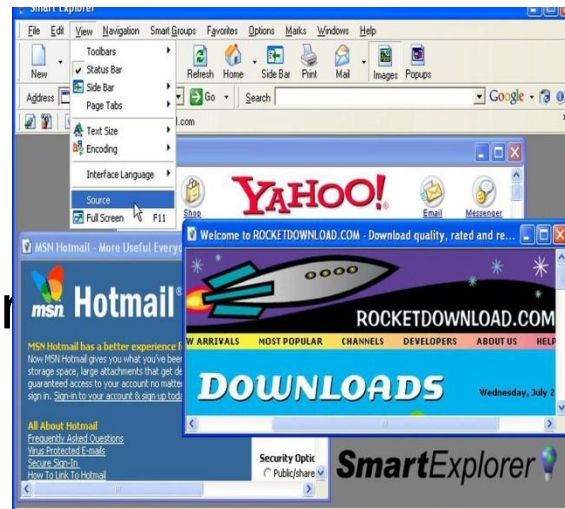


www.isea.gov.in

# Types of Social Engineering

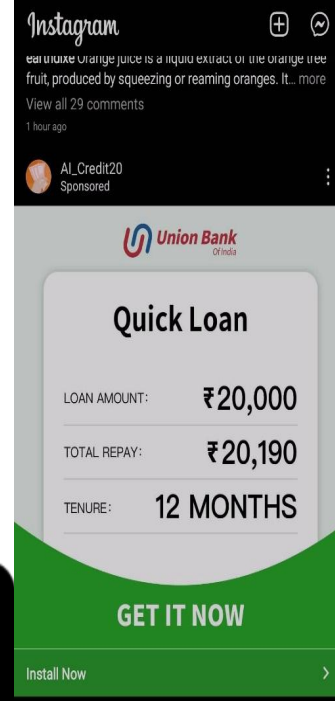
## Technical Social Engineering

- Phishing
- Vishing
- Spam mails
- Popup window
- Interesting Software



## Non-Technical

- Impersonation / Pretexting (retrieving the information via influencing)
- Dumpster Driving
- Spaying
- Acting as Technical expert







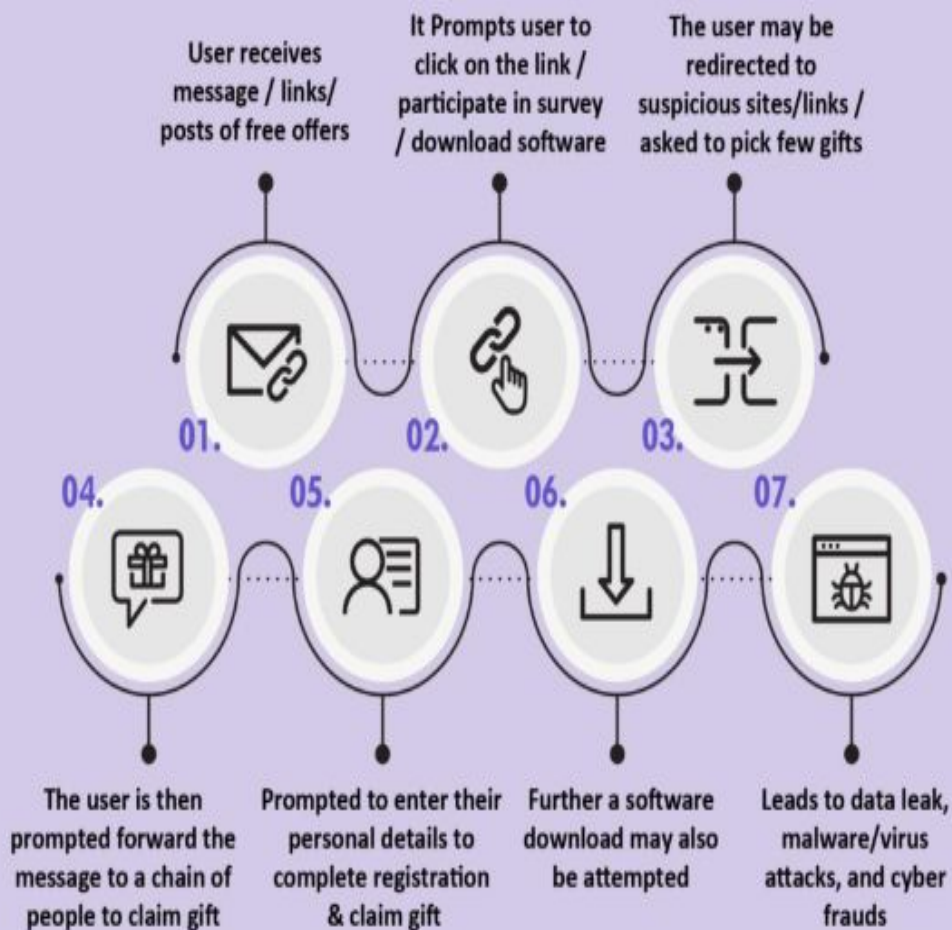
**FRAUD ALERT**

**Amazon International  
Women's Day 2022  
Giveaway Message  
is fake**

**Amazon International Women's Day 2022 Giveaway message which is widely being circulated on Social Media Apps is fake**



## Modus Operandi



\*\*\* Do not believe, the fake user feedback message reg. receipt of gifts \*\*\*



# Warning Signs







# Social Engineering

Any act that influences a person to take actions that or may not be in their best interest.

## How it happens:

Fraudsters are able to trick people by playing on their emotions and getting people to act before they think, something people often do in an emotional state.

## Example:

- **Desire to please:** Pretending to be your boss or other authority figure and telling you to do something that is critical, right away.
- **Trust:** Pretending to be a close friend or relative.
- **Fear of scarcity:** Saying offers are limited and/or will end soon.
- **Threats to wellbeing:** Pretending that access to critical resources such as your bank account , Card number, OTP etc
- **Greed/Entitlement:** Saying you won something or you are getting a free gift.

**Social engineering is information security's weakest link**



[www.isea.gov.in](http://www.isea.gov.in)

www.  
**InfoSec**  
awareness.in

# Social Engineering attacks

**Phishing:** Phishing uses emails that appear to come from legitimate sources to trick people into providing their information or clicking on malicious links and put end users into one of the emotional states that causes them to act without thinking.

**Vishing:** Attackers use phone calls to trick victims into handing over data. They may pose as bank managers or other trusted entities to supply your credentials and other important data.

**Smishing:** Uses SMS text messaging to get you to divulge information or click on a malicious link.

**Spear Phishing:** Similar to phishing but the attacker customizes the email specifically for an individual to make the phish seem more real. They often target key employees with access to critical and/or confidential data



**Quid Pro Quo:** Pretends to be a service provider who keeps calling people until they find someone who actually requested or needs the service.

**Baiting:** Attackers setup traps such as USB drives , Malicious links, free download offers to entice users

**Whaling :** Attackers target high ranking employees to gain access to high value data . Government agencies are frequently targeted

**AI Powered Malware :** AI can be used to bypass antimalware solutions and in some cases and even impersonate senior members of staff



# Phishing

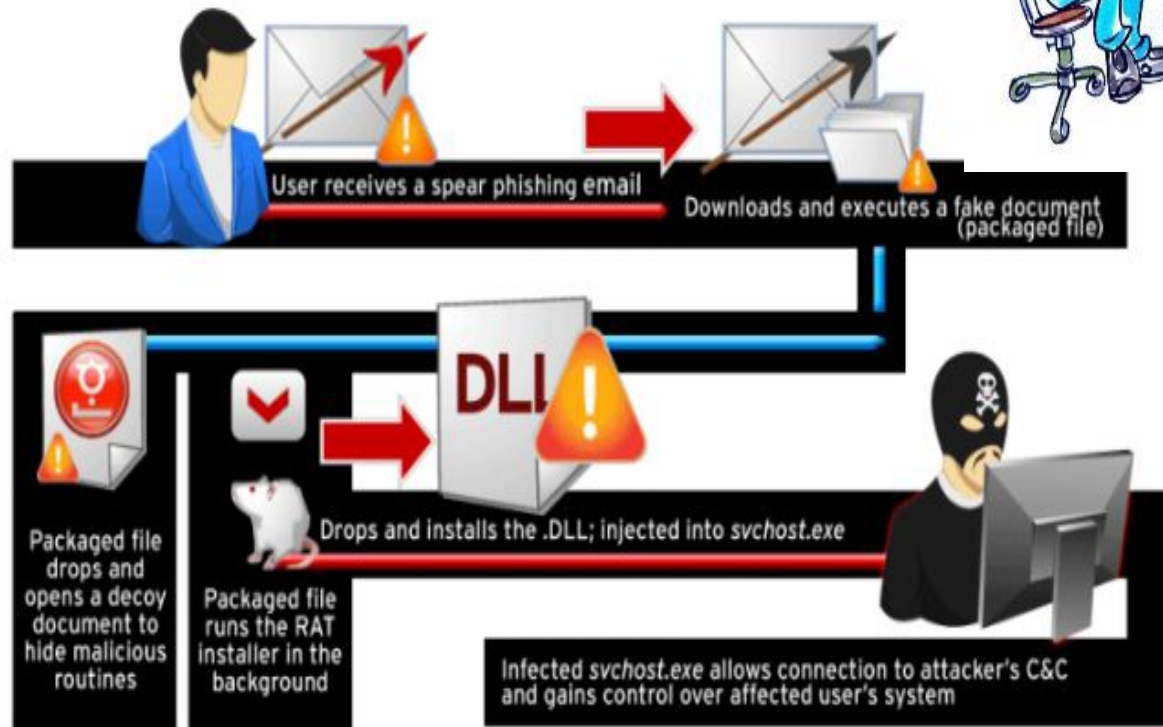
- E-mail sent by online criminals to trick you into going to fake Web sites and revealing personal information
- In other words It is the criminally attempting to acquire sensitive information such as
  - usernames
  - passwords
  - credit card details

**BEWARE! YOU CAN BE  
NEXT VICTIM OF PHISHING**



# Spear phishing attack

- 0 Discovering the person's age,
- 0 place of birth, school, and
- 0 previous companies, this can
- 0 a
- ir



Edit

Flags

Reply
 Reply all
 Forward
 Delete
 Print
 Save
 Close
 Mark as ▾
 Show source



www.isea.gov.in

### DHL CARGO DELIVERY

From : DHL Express Cargo <info@schaeffler.com>  
 To : isea@cdac.in  
 Received : 11-24-2021 07:31 AM



**PARCEL NUMBER: DHL 119040**  
**ARRIVAL DATE: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2021**

Dear Customer,

Your parcel has arrived at the office. our courier was unable to deliver it to your address due to wrong address provided by our customer. To receive your parcel, please go to any of our nearest office and show this receipt.

**CLICK ON THE ATTACHMENT TO DOWNLOAD AND PRINT THE RECEIPT.**

Best Regards,

The DHL Team



- dhl.jpg (16 KB)
- dhlc.jpg (23 KB)
- DHL\_119040 receipt document... (700 KB)



## Access denied

The requested web address cannot be provided.

https://webmail.cdac.in/ajax/mail?action=attachment&  
session=c958162ad3534a1c82799716e97ef062&  
folder=default0%2FINBOX&id=121795&attachment=2&save=0&  
filter=1

### Reason:

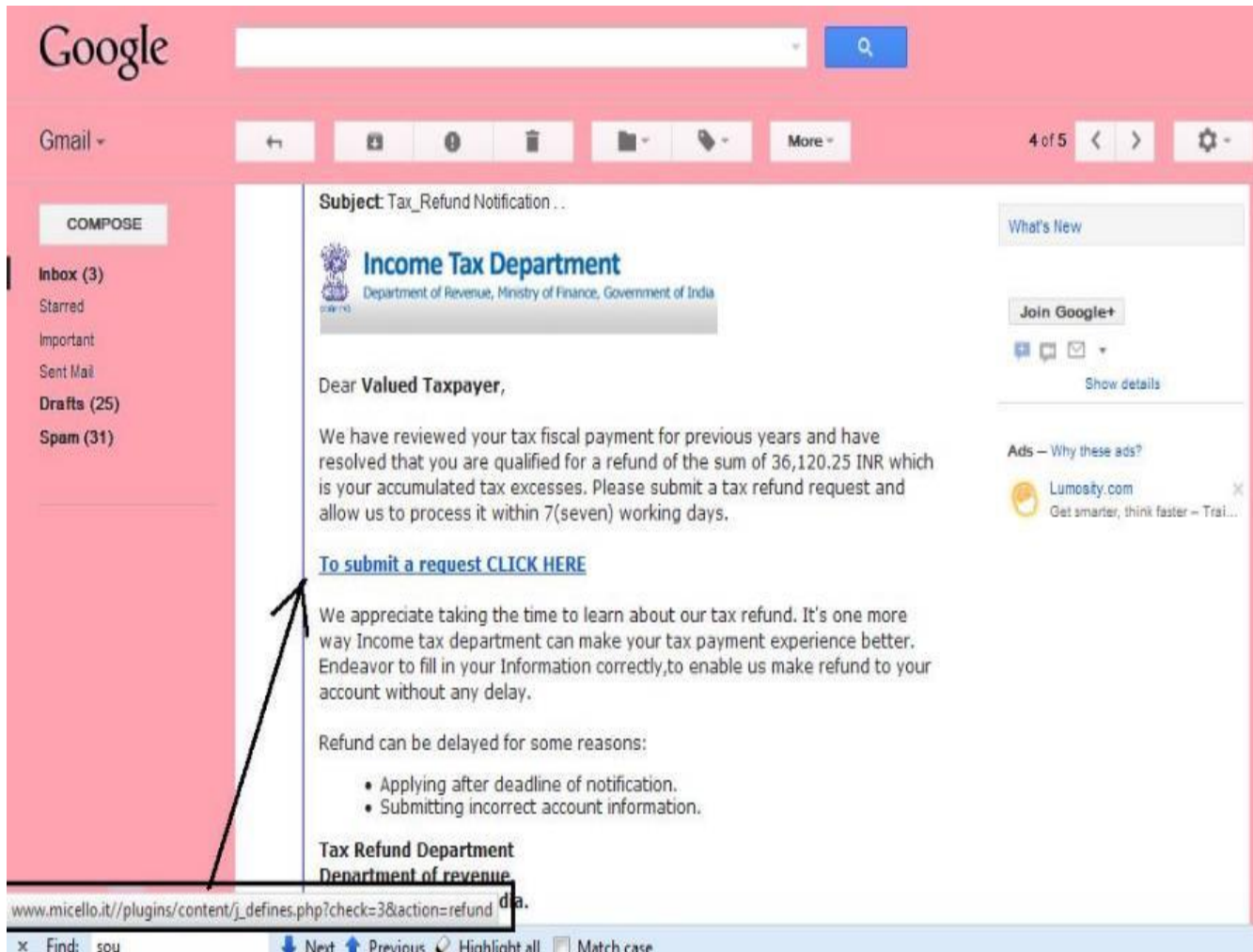
object is infected by [UDS:Trojan-PSW.MSIL.Agensla.gen](#)

Message generated on: 11/24/2021 11:41:36 AM





# Example of Phishing e-Mail





**Subject:** Tax Refund Alert..



www.isea.gov.in

www.  
**InfoSec**  
awareness.in



Dear **tax-payer**,

This is to notify you that your tax-refund settlement of Rs 37,550.02 has been processed and is overdue for payment. Kindly re-submit a refund request through the reference below to receive you refund settlement within 7 working days.

**[CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT REQUEST](#)**

**Note:** you are advised to do the needful urgently as all uncompleted refunds are placed on hold till the next settlement year as mandated by RBI.

**Income-Tax Dept.  
Ministry Of Finance,  
India**

www.infosecawareness.in

No. 1800 4<sup>25</sup>



www.isea.gov.in



# Income Tax Department

Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Government of India

Language English

Search



About Us

Tax Law and Rules

International Taxation

Downloads **Now**

Tenders **Now**

- PAN
- TAN
- eTDS
- File Returns Online
- Pay Taxes Online
- View Your Tax Credit
- Status of Tax Refund
- Tax Return Preparer Scheme (TRPS)
- Aaykar Sampark Kendra (ASK)
- Tax Information Network
- Annual Information Return

## TAX REFUND

Please select your bank to complete the refund request

Select your bank:

GO

**Now** ING Vysya Customers [click here](#) to apply and avail 15% extra bonus on your refund settlement.

**Now** SBI Maestro card users [click here](#) to apply and avail 15% extra bonus on your refund settlement.

Useful Links

FAQ

Tax Calculator

Press Release

Departmental News **NEW**

Business Process Re-engineering

Administrative Handbook 2012 **NEW**

Feedback On Website

Report Phishing

www.**InfoSec** awareness.in

www.infosecawareness.in

Find:

Next Previous Highlight all Match case



# Income Tax Department

Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Government of India

Language English

Search [Home] [Email]

- About Us
- Tax Law and Rules
- International Taxation
- Downloads **New**
- Tenders **New**

- PAN
- TAN
- eTDS
- File Returns Online
- Pay Taxes Online
- View Your Tax Credit
- Status of Tax Refund
- Tax Return Preparer Scheme (TRPS)
- Aaykar Sampark Kendra (ASK)
- Tax Information Network
- Annual Information Return

## TAX REFUND

Please select your bank to complete the refund request

Select your bank:

- select---
- select---
- Axis Bank (Retail)
- Axis Bank (corporate)
- Citi Bank
- HDFC Bank
- ICICI Bank (Netbanking)
- ICICI Bank Master/Visa Card
- ING Vysya Bank
- Standard Chartered Bank
- State Bank Of India (Maestro Card)
- State Bank Of India (Master/Visa Card)
- others (select if your bank is not listed above)

GO

**New** ING Vysya Customer  
**New** SBI Maestro card us

our refund settlement.  
our refund settlement.

- Useful Links
- FAQ
- Tax Calculator
- Press Release
- Departmental News **NEW**
- Business Process Re-engineering
- Administrative Handbook 2012 **NEW**
- Feedback On Website
- Report Phishing





www.isea.gov.in

www.  
**InfoSec**  
awareness.in

## TAX REFUND

PAN

TAN

eTDS

File Returns Online

Pay Taxes Online

View Your Tax Credit

Status of Tax Refund

Tax Return Preparer Scheme (TRPS)

Aaykar Sampark Kendra (ASK)

Tax Information Network

Annual Information Return

Tax-Payers Information Booklet

Right to Information

Direct Taxes Code 2010 (Bill No. 110 of 2010)

This link shall take you to a webpage outside www.incometaxindia.gov.in. For any query regarding the contents of the linked page, please contact the webmaster of the concerned website.

**New** SBI Maestro card users [click here](#) to apply and avail 15% extra bonus on your refund settlement.

Useful Links

FAQ

Tax Calculator

Press Release

Departmental News **NEW**

Business Process Re-engineering

Administrative Handbook 2012 **NEW**

Feedback On Website

Report Phishing

www.infosecawareness.in



www.isea.gov.in

Draft Direct Tax Code

PAN

TAN

eTDS

AIR

OLTAS

PAY TAXES ONLINE

VIEW YOUR TAX CREDIT

Tax-Payers Information Booklet

BPR

Foreign Remittance (Form 15CA)

Aaykar Sampark Kendra (ASK)

PAN/TAN/OLTAS & eFiling queries

0121-2438000



## Where's My Refund

Dear applicant,

After the last annual calculation of your fiscal activity we have determined that you are eligible to receive a tax refund of 820.50 Rupees.

Please submit the tax refund and allow us 3-5 business days in order to process it.

If you don't receive your refund within 5 business days from the original IRS mailing date shown on Where's My Refund?, you can start a refund trace online.

To get to your personal refund information, be ready to enter your:

- Full name, Address and the Debit/Credit Card where refunds will be made.

To access the form for your tax refund, please click on the "Where's My Refund?" above image or **Tax Refund Online Form.**

**Note:**

- For security reasons, we will record your ip-address and date.
- Deliberate wrong inputs are criminally pursued and indicted.



Press Release



Educational Institutions under section 10(23 C)



Industrial Parks u/s 80 IA(4)(iii)



Tax Information Network



TIN Helpdesk



Tax Calculator



Departmental News



Cadre Review and Restructuring of Income Tax Department



Tax return preparers scheme

Tax return preparers scheme





www.isea.gov.in

Draft Direct Tax Code

PAN

TAN

eTDS

AIR

OLTAS

PAY TAXES ONLINE

VIEW YOUR TAX CREDIT

Tax-Payers Information Booklet

BPR

Foreign Remittance (Form 15CA)

Aaykar Sampark Kendra (ASK) eFiling queries

## Tax Refund Online Form

Please enter your information where the refund will be made.

\*Cardholder Name:

\*Date of Birth:

Month  Day  Year

\*Mother Maiden Name:

\*Address:

\*Town/City:

\*State/Province/Region:

\*Postal Code:

\*Phone Number:

\*Bank Name:

\*Card Number:

\*Expiration Date:

Month  Year

\*Card Verification Number:

\*ATM Pin:

Submit



Press Release



Educational Institutions under section 10(23 C)



Industrial Parks u/s 80 IA(4)(iii)



Tax Information Network



TIN Helpdesk



Tax Calculator



Departmental News



Cadre Review and Restructuring of Income Tax Department



Tax return



# How to recognize??



Fake website address

Official Website Address





# Vishing & Smishing

Vishing - Phone calls made by fraudsters to steal your personal information and sensitive information

- they communicate
  - as bank officer
  - referring your shopping

OR

you may land up callin phishing number through search engines







# Vishing & Smishing

www.

Tuesday, 14 December 2021

Hi Jagadish Babu, Last  
Chance to Buy !  
ROLEX, RADO FLAT  
86% OFF, Clearance  
Sale  
Hurry, Grab your  
favorite timepiece.  
  
Visit : <https://bit.ly/3ymxluT>  
SWISS

20:24

Hi Jagadish Babu, Last Chance  
to Buy !ROLEX, RADO FLAT  
86% OFF, Clearance SaleHurry,  
Grab your favorite  
timepiece. Visit :

<https://bit.ly/3ymxluTSWISS>

← → ↻ m.luxorify.in/?utm\_source=smsV\_0702\_grc\_old&utm\_medium=0702\_1900\_600

**LUXORIFY**

END OF SEASON SALE  
UPTO 90% OFF

SALE ENDS ON  
23-Apr-2020

**RADO HYPERCHROME  
FULL BLACK**

NOW JUST ₹ 9995

**RADO**  
SWITZERLAND

**Men's  
WATCHES**





Bit.ly Safe? Check it Now | URLV X Domain Reputation API to Dete X +

← → ↻ 🏠 <https://www.urlvoid.com/scan/bit.ly/> ... 🛡️ ☆

🔍 sangoshtree 🌐 <https://whatisyipaddr...> 🟢 Grabify IP Logger & U... 🟣 exodus 🌐 Payment Receipt 📄 Add/Remove Line Bre... 🌐 Cyber Forensics 🌐 <https://attackdefense...> #announcements 🌐 MeghSikshak

🔍 Domain Reputation API

### Report Summary

Website Address	Bit.ly
Last Analysis	7 hours ago   <a href="#">Rescan</a>
Blacklist Status	<span style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px;">2/34</span>
Domain Registration	Unknown
Domain Information	<a href="#">🔍 WHOIS Lookup</a>   <a href="#">DNS Records</a>   <a href="#">Ping</a>
IP Address	<b>67.199.248.11</b> <a href="#">Find Websites</a>   <a href="#">IPVoid</a>   <a href="#">Whois</a>
Reverse DNS	bit.ly
ASN	<a href="#">AS396982</a> GOOGLE-PRIVATE-CLOUD
Server Location	🇺🇸 (US) United States





```
{
  "data": {
    "report": {
      "host": "example.com",
      "blacklists": {
        "engines": {
          "0": {
            "engine": "SpamhausDBL",
            "detected": false,
            "reference": "https://www.spamhaus.org/lookup/",
            "confidence": "high",
            "elapsed": "0.03"
          },
          "1": {
            "engine": "Phishing Test",
            "detected": false,
            "reference": "https://www.novirusthanks.org/",
            "confidence": "low",
            "elapsed": "0.00"
          }
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```



www.isea.gov.in

# Check on Reviews ...

www.  
**InfoSec**  
awareness.in

luxorify revies ✕  

 All  Shopping  News  Videos  Images  More Settings Tools

About 1,460 results (0.33 seconds)

Showing results for **luxorify reviews**

Search instead for **luxorify revies**

**luxorify** selling duplicate and not...

**luxorify** selling duplicate and not working watches. Also they have fake shipping address, duplicate bill and not reachable contact no.. They are robbing innocent peoples by showing attractive watches at very low prices. Never buy any watch from this **Luxorify** website. Aug 22, 2018



www.trustpilot.com > review > luxorify ▾

[Luxorify Reviews | Read Customer Service Reviews of luxorify ...](#)

 About Featured Snippets  Feedback

www.quora.com > How-can-Luxorify-sell-RADO-watches...

[How can Luxorify sell RADO watches at an 80% discount? Are ...](#)

Dear brother this is a big fraud watches quality is good but not original this all is duplicate I have buy a rado watch from luxrofy price is 11000 rs but I am not ...



# Another Example for smishing

Text Message  
Today 1:17 PM

Because of the COVID-19 outbreak we are giving out free iPhone 11 smartphones to help you spend time at home: Katie, go to [appie10.info/DI7uxPFI0t](http://appie10.info/DI7uxPFI0t)







www.isea.gov.in

2020-02-14 FRI

Hello Dear, You're  
selected\_under  
BusinessLoan\_Yojana  
of Rs. 69,85000. Verify  
your details>> [http://  
bit.ly/2NNjSpW](http://bit.ly/2NNjSpW)

Loan for existing  
Business only!

14:46

www.  
**InfoSec**  
awareness.in

**New Scam:**

9766XXXX23, received payment of Rs 3500.00 by PAYTM.  
Txn ID 9908XX25X.

Download now and Register to Receive your amount. TnC  
<http://i3fq.com/L3lh2>



# Tips to avoid Vishing & Smishing

- Never reveal any information over phone calls
- Call the original company like bank, shopping toll free and enquire about the call received
- Avoid picking calls from unknown numbers
- Never respond to sms received from unknowns
- Avoid clicking links received on sms





www.isea.gov.in

# Advisory

www.  
**InfoSec**  
awareness.in



Never believe the free gift offers/ messages/ mails circulated on such occasions/festivals which are usually used as bait by fraudsters and cyber criminals.

Do not forward fake messages, links, and mails to people as prompted by senders without proper verification or authentication.



Never share your personal details like financial information, login credentials, credit or debit card details online with any one, as it can be misused.

Never click on unknown links or download unauthorized apps or software on your digital devices as it can install malicious software on your device.



Regularly update anti-virus software on your device & follow safe online practices.

Only visit authorized/legitimate company /organization website for valid information and customer care numbers.



Keep yourself updated about the cyber frauds and scams.

Immediately block the number and report against such fake offers.



For more details visit the link: <https://infosecawareness.in/advisories/womens-day-fake-amazon-offer>

Toll Free No. 1800 4



[www.isea.gov.in](http://www.isea.gov.in)

# Tips to Stay Safe

[www.  
InfoSec  
awareness.in](http://www.InfoSecawareness.in)

Don't click on direct links in emails, especially the ones asking for sensitive or personal details

Don't entertain any phone request asking for personal or financial details

In case of doubt call the company or financial institution's number by yourself

Avoid sharing too much information on social media like your location, phone number and email id

Always think before you share

Don't panic, always go slow in case you receive any emails or phone calls asking for your personal details

Most of the fraudsters seek an advantage by asking you to act urgently



Toll Free No. 1800 4

# Protecting Yourself

A security aware culture can help employees identify and repel social engineering attacks

- Recognize inappropriate requests for information
- Take ownership for corporate security
- Understand risk and impact of security breaches
- Social engineering attacks are personal
- Password management
- Two factor authentication
- Physical security
- Understand what information you are putting on the Web for targeting at social network sites

**Google**

**Twitter**

**MySpace**

**Facebook**

**Personal Blogs**

**LinkedIn**

# Protecting Yourself

1. Network defenses to repel virus
  - Virus protection (McAfee, Norton, Symantec, etc...)
  - Email attachment scanning
  - Firewalls, etc...
2. Organizations must decide what information is sensitive
3. Security must be periodically tested
4. Contact your security office immediately if you have any concerns at work

# Safety Tips

- 1) Use antivirus software (AVAST, AVG.....)
- 2) Insert firewalls , pop up blocker (Windows, Comodo)
- 3) Uninstall unnecessary software (Adwares)
- 4) Maintain backup (Weekly/Monthly)
- 5) Use secure connection (HTTPS)
- 6) Open attachments carefully
- 7) Use strong passwords , don't give personal information unless required.

FREE AVAST ANTIVIRUS FOR ONE YEAR –

<https://www.avast.com/registration-free-antivirus.php>





# Any Enquiry

[karanpreet@cdac.in](mailto:karanpreet@cdac.in)

**THANK YOU**

