In an ever evolving digital world, almost all of us use computers in our official tasks on a daily basis. It is important as users that we are aware of the security threats and vulnerabilities which can affect the computers.

The CISO newsletter is one such means of providing basic background and overview of cyber security to all users. In second edition of the newsletter, a cyber security quiz has been included so as to give readers a method for self-assessment of their level of understanding of cyber security.

All personnel in the Ministry are requested to go through the contents of the newsletter and forward their valuable feedback and suggestions for further improvement.

V Anandarajan
Joint Secretary
1. What does the “https://” at the beginning of a URL denote as opposed to “http://” (without the “s”)?

(a) That the site has special high definition.  
(b) The information entered in the site is encrypted.  
(c) That the site is newest version available.  
(d) That the site is not accessible to newest version.  
(e) None of the above.

2. Which of the following is an example of phishing attack?

(a) Sending someone an email that contain a malicious link that is disguised to look like an email from someone the persons knows.  
(b) Creating a website that looks nearly identical to a real website in order to trick users into entering their login information.  
(c) Sending someone a text message that contains a malicious link that is disguised to look like a notification that the person has won a contest.  
(d) All of the above.

3. A group of computers that are networked together and used by hackers to steal information is called as__________.

(a) Botnet  (b) Rootkit (c) DDoS (d) Operating System (e) Not sure

4. Which of the following four passwords is the most secure?

(a) Sau1234  (b) AsU@#852  (c) about?  (d) 12345678  (e) Not sure

5. Cyber criminals encrypt the user’s personal files and the user is then asked to pay money for decryption. This attack is known as__________.

(a) Botnet  (b) Ransomware  (c) Driving  (d) Spam  (e) None of these
6. “Private browsing is a feature in many internet browsing that lets users access web pages without any information (like browsing history) being stored by the browser. Can internet service provider see the online activities of their subscribers when those subscribers are using private browsing.

(a) Yes  (b) No  (c) Not sure

7. Turning off the GPS function of your smart phone prevents any tracking of your phone locations.

(a) True  (b) False  (c) Not sure

8. If a public Wi-Fi network (such as an airport or café) requires a password to access, is it generally safe to use that network for sensitive activities such as online banking.

(a) Yes, it is safe  (b) No, it is not safe  (c) Not sure

9. What kind of cyber security risk can be minimized by using a virtual private network (VPN)?

(a) Use of insecure Wi-Fi network  (b) Key logging
(c) De-anonymization by network operators  (d) Phishing attacks
(e) Not sure

“IT IS EASIER TO IMPLEMENT CYBER SECURITY THAN DEAL WITH CYBER ADVERSITY.”
10. Some websites and online services use a security process called two-step authentication. Which of the following images is an example of two-step authentication?

- a. 
- b. 
- c. 
- d. 
- e. NONE OF THE ABOVE 
- f. NOT SURE

“CYBER SECURITY IS MORE THAN A MATTER OF IT”
Ans 1: (b) That information entered into the site is encrypted. Encrypting information entered into a website makes it far more difficult for anyone other than the user and website owner to read the information.

Ans 2: (d) All of the above
Phishing attacks attempt to get a user to click on a malicious link or file by impersonating a trusted source the user is familiar with.

Ans 3: (a) Botnet
Botnet is a group of interconnected devices containing one or more bots which are used to steal data, send spam and perform other types of attacks.

Ans 4: (b) AsU@#852
It contains a combination of letters, numbers and symbols; it includes both upper and lower case letters. It is an example of a strong password.

Ans 5: (b) Ransomware
Ransomware is a type of software designed to block access to a computer until a certain amount of money is paid to the attacker/cyber criminal.

Ans 6: (a) Yes
Private browsing prevents a user’s internet browser from storing certain kinds of files on his or her device. However, internet service providers can still see all of the details of the user’s web traffic.

Ans 7: (b) False
In addition to GPS, smart phones can also be tracked using the cell phone towers or Wi-Fi networks that the phone is connected to.

Ans 8: (b) No, it is not safe
Even if a public Wi-Fi network requires a password, other users can potentially view the sensitive information a user sends across that Wi-Fi network using specific software.

Ans 9: (a) Use of insecure Wi-Fi networks
A Virtual Private Network (VPN) allows users to create an encrypted connection between their devices and the internet, making it much harder for anyone other than the user to see their activity.

Ans 10: (a) This is the only example of two-step authentication listed – true two-step authentication requires the user to enter a one-time code each time they log in to their account, in addition to their regular username and password.

Note: Quiz content sourced from Internet.
GUIDELINES FOR COMPUTER USERS

DO’s

- Ensure that the PC has a BIOS/ power on password
- Ensure that the anti-virus is updated with the latest anti virus definitions.
- Scan your computer for virus and other forms of malware.
- Ensure that the screen saver is enabled in official computers.
- Always logout the computer after use.
- Password protect sensitive files.

DON’Ts

- Don’t let unauthorized persons use your computer.
- Don’t reveal the administrator password to any unauthorized person.
- Don’t install unauthorized software in office computers.
- Don’t share your password with anyone.
- Don’t use USB pen drives.

All hyperlinks / references / content provided in the newsletter are for information only and does not constitute their endorsement or recommendation by the Ministry.

HELPDESK

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