

Subject: - **Cyber Security Advisory – Spear Phishing Cases on Rise – Golden Jackal (Advisory No. 51)**

**Context.** Cyber threats actors are continuously targeting strategic entities to gain access to sensitive information for exploitation. A spear-phishing campaign has been observed operating via a crafted letter of MoFA with subject “Gallery of Officers Who Have Received National and Foreign Awards”. The email asks recipients to forward their personal details on the email “ad.o&m@gov.pk”.

2. **Malware Details**

- a. **APT Group Involved.** GoldenJackal aka JackalControl /JackalSteal.
- b. **Initial Infection Vector.** A skype installer is used to install a NET executable named as skype32.exe.
- c. **Affected Areas.** Diplomatic Missions in Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- d. **Persistence.** For persistence, Windows service “WEvMngs” is created on the infected systems.

3. **Recommendations**

- a. Admins must check theme files of their WordPress sites as it is the most common infectious point in this campaign.
- b. Web Admins must employ file integrity monitoring systems to catch JS injections and prevent your site from being a RAT distribution point.
- c. Internet users can protect themselves from such threats by enabling script blocking settings on their browser.
- d. Place 2FA on all important accounts (such as bank, social media IDs).
- e. It is advised to install Firewall/Antivirus.
- f. Upgrade WordPress to latest version on all websites.