

Phishing and scam hit the roof in Bahrain: report

There is a 188% increase in attacks in Q2 2022, says a cybersecurity report

TDT | Manama

Cyber attacks targeting Bahrainis have rocketed up in the second quarter of this year by a concerning 188%, says a new report, especially by targeting people with vacation opportunities abroad, as pandemic-induced restrictions eased.

While the vacation season is high, scammers are trying to lure travellers looking for 'interesting' places to go, cheap places to stay and reasonably priced flights, the report warns.

The attacks related to data loss threats – phishing and scam/social engineering – compare to records from a year-ago quarter, says the latest analysis by Kaspersky.

Kaspersky, a global cybersecurity and digital privacy company founded in 1997, says they recorded 735,244 phishing attacks in Bahrain in Q2.

Kaspersky said its researchers have observed intensified scamming activities, with numerous



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MIKHAIL SYTNIK, A SECURITY EXPERT AT KASPERSKY.

phishing pages distributed under the guise of airline and booking services.

The number of attempts to open phishing pages related to booking and airline services in the first half of 2022 was 4,311 in the META (Middle East, Turkey and Africa) region.

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use this to lure users that have grown tired of searching for great deals," comments Mikhail Sytnik, a security expert at Kaspersky.

"After two years of flight restrictions imposed by the pandemic, travelling is back. But so are travel scams – with intensified scamming activity targeting users through fake booking and rental services.

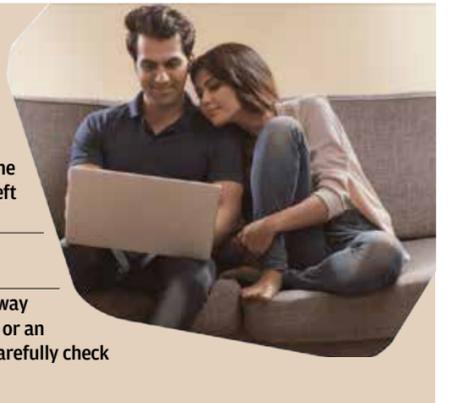
"Such attacks are preventable, which is why we urge users to be

Tips against threats online:

- Scan the address bar before keying in any sensitive information, such as your login details and password. If something is wrong with the URL (i.e. spelling, it doesn't look like the original or it uses some special symbols instead of letters) just stay away. One could also check the certificate of the site by clicking on the lock icon to the left of the URL.

- Don't ever click on links from unknown sources (either through e-mails, messaging apps or social networks).

- Visiting the business' official website if you see a giveaway offered in e-mail or on social media by a travel company or an airline to confirm the giveaway exists. You should also carefully check the links the giveaway ad leads you to.



sceptical about overly generous offers. If an offer seems too good to be true, it probably is," adds Sytnik.

Kaspersky Lab is a Russian multinational cybersecurity and anti-virus provider headquartered in Moscow, Russia, and operated by a holding company in the United Kingdom.

Common traps The cybersecurity service provider points out that social engineering, sometimes called

"human hacking" scams, is used to trick people into entering personal information, including bank account passwords, payment card details, or login details for social media accounts.

"In the wrong hands, this opens doors to various malicious operations, such as money theft or corporate networks being compromised," Kaspersky says.

The report also points out phishing as a "strong" attack method done on a large scale.

Attackers send massive waves of emails under the name of legitimate institutions and promote fake pages while deploying a variety of tricks to bypass email blockings.

A common technique is HTML attachments with partially or fully obfuscated code. HTML files allow attackers to use scripts and obfuscate malicious content to make it harder to detect and send phishing pages as attachments instead of links.



A batch of eleven inspectors took their oath before the Labour Market Regulatory Authority Chief Executive Officer Noof Abdulrahman Jamsheer. The Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments had issued Edict (99) of 2022 authorising some LMRA employees to serve as judicial officers. Jamsheer urged judicial officers to perform their duties with utmost professionalism and accuracy and comply with law provisions in dealing with expatriates in the local market. She commended the role of LMRA judicial officers in supporting Bahrain's efforts to maintain the labour market stability, protect all parties' interests and preserve the rights of employers and workers.

Long-time resident leaves Bahrain



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Long-time Bahrain resident Baby Varghese (Benny), who was working as a Senior Architectural Cad Technician at Ansari Engineering Company, is leaving Bahrain, with his wife Anita, for India after 38 years of service. Varghese, who came to Bahrain in 1983, said that he was able to "work in the

same company for 38 years by the grace of God."

"I am returning with unforgettable memories of Bahrain," he said.

Varghese, who will leave the Kingdom today, said he is looking forward to settling in the United States.

His son Roshin Varghese, daughter Reelu and Husband

Philip Mathews work in the USA. Soman Baby, a journalist with over three decades of experience and a well-known personality in Bahrain, is his elder brother.

Twin brother Baby John and his wife Anila returned to India last year. Another brother Alex Baby is in Bahrain.

Hair Transplant Solutions at Royal Bahrain Hospital

- Dr Lalit B. Rajpal, Consultant, Plastic, Reconstructive & Hair Transplant Surgeon touches upon the hair loss issues commonly faced by men and women and explains the hair transplant procedure in details

Manama

Our hair is a defining aspect of our appearance. A healthy head of hair makes us look attractive and youthful positively affecting our self-image and the way we interact with people.

Men, women and children can suffer from hair loss. Some healthy men tend to lose more hair than others. This is androgenetic alopecia (also referred to as male pattern baldness). Female pattern hair loss is restricted to the front and top with diffuse thinning but the hair line is typically maintained.

The field of Hair Transplant has evolved rapidly in recent years with the advances within the surgical technique.

This article is an effort to provide scientifically and ethically correct information about Hair transplant surgery.

- What is a Hair transplant?

Dr Lalit: Hair transplantation is an operation that takes hair from the back and sides of the head which will not fall out in later life, and moves it to the area of hair loss. A new hair is designed artistically during the planning stage. Surgery is in a single or multiple sessions depending upon the extent of the bald area to be covered.



Dr. Lali

- Who are the candidates for Hair Transplant?

Those individuals with hair loss that have sufficient donor hair from the back and sides of the scalp to transplant to the balding area are good candidates for hair transplantation.

- What are the techniques used in Hair transplant?

The state-of-the-art procedures are Follicular Unit Extraction (FUE) and Follicular unit transplant (FUT). FUE technique involves the use of small punches to selectively isolate hair grafts without cutting skin and thus giving small dotted scars. The strip method removes a strip of skin from the back of the head, following which grafts are dissected out under high magnification and the donor area is closed by an imperceptible scar.

- What all areas can be transplanted?

To the areas of Scalp, Beard,



Moustache, Eyebrows, Post burns/traumatic scar causing hair loss.

- What are the areas from which hair can be harvested?

a) From the Scalp, Beard, chest, back, etc.

- Is FUE Scarless?

No- It leaves very small round dots which are covered by surrounding hair.

- Is the procedure permanent?

Yes - The implanted hairs don't have any effect of Androgens, thus making a permanent result.

- What is the survival rate of the transplanted hair?

More than 85 % of transplanted hair graft will survive. This makes this procedure extremely rewarding.

- Does the hair transplant procedure hurt?

Patients are given local anesthesia in the donor and recipient areas with or without sedation following which no pain or discomfort is felt during the surgery.

- How long does it take for transplanted hair to grow and what's the growth rate?

The growth process typically starts about 3 months after the procedure, while final coverage is obvious within 8 to 12 months after the procedure. During the process, sprays and lotions will have to be used to promote survival of transplanted hairs. Once the transplanted hairs begin to grow, they'll still do so for a lifetime.