COVID 19-related Phishing Attack Campaign by Malicious Actors

Cert-in warns against major upcoming phishing attack which promises free Covid-19 testing, Cert-In has put out a strong advisory to citizens warning them of a potential cyber offensive from malicious actors. In the guise of a free Covid test, malicious actors could be carrying out a massive phishing attack. Watch out for IDs like * ncov2019@gov.in*. Please refer Cert-in Advisory for more details:
https://www.cert-in.org.in/s2cMainServlet?pageid=PUBVLNOTES02&VLCODE=CIAD-2020-0040

Key Points

1. Beware of *Malicious Phishing E-mails* | *SMS* | *Messages on Social Media* inciting you to provide personal and financial information.
2. Phishing campaign is expected to impersonate government agencies, departments and trade associations who have been tasked to oversee the disbursement of the government fiscal aid
3. Spoofed Email ID which could be used for the phishing email is expected to be ***ncov2019@gov.in***
4. Phishing E-mail Subject Line: ***Free Covid-19 testing for all residents of Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Chennai and Ahmedabad.***
5. The malicious group claims to have 2 million individual email addresses and the attack campaign is expected to start on June 21

Preventive Measures

1. Don't open or click on attachment in unsolicited ***E-mail***, ***SMS*** or ***messages through Social Media***
2. Exercise caution in opening attachments, even if the sender appears to be known
3. Beware of e-mail addresses, spelling errors in e-mails, websites and unfamiliar e-mail senders
4. Do not submit personal financial details on unfamiliar or unknown websites / links
5. Beware of e-mails, links providing special offers like Covid-19 testing, Aid, Winning prize, Rewards, Cashback offers

Reporting the incident

1. Any unusual activity or attack should be reported immediately at incident@cert-in.org.in. with the relevant logs, email headers for the analysis of the attacks and taking further appropriate actions.
2. Forward any such incident at spam.reporting@icar.gov.in