

## **APK Cyber Scams: How to Stay Protected**

The Telangana Cyber Security Bureau urges the public to stay vigilant against cyber scams. Cybercriminals are constantly devising new ways to steal personal and financial information, leading to significant financial losses for victims. Awareness and immediate action are crucial to protect yourself from these malicious activities. Here's how one common scam works and the steps you can take to safeguard your information.

## **How the Scam Works:**

Cybercriminals use bank logos as display pictures (DPs) and send an .APK file via WhatsApp or other social media platforms under the guise of the bank. They claim that clicking the file is necessary for KYC updates, obtaining a free credit card, or receiving a reward. As soon as the victim clicks on the .APK file, the control of their phone is transferred to the scammer. This allows the cybercriminal to access OTPs sent to the victim's phone. The scammer then steals the victim's personal information and siphons off money from their bank account.

## **Precautionary Measures:**

- Do not click on any links or files received through social media.
- Before downloading any app, research it thoroughly and carefully check the permissions before allowing them.
- Never provide your personal and bank/credit card details online.
- Never reveal or type your UPI PIN under any circumstances.
- Remember that no bank will ever ask for KYC details over the phone.

If you encounter any suspicious activity or believe you have been targeted by these scams, please report it immediately to the **Telangana Cyber Security Bureau.** 

## Stay vigilant, stay safe.

Best Regards,



Telangana Cyber Security Bureau.