

SCAMS OF ONLINE PLATFORM

*Community Service Project report submitted
in partial fulfillment of the requirement for award of the degree of*

**Bachelor of Technology
in
Computer Science & Engineering**

By

**S MUHAMED ASLAM (21UEID0008) (VTU21159)
S MOHAMED ABBAS (21UEID0007) (VTU19078)
R A PAVITTHIRAN (21UECT0030) (VTU19565)**

*Under the guidance of
DR.M SHYAMALA DEVI,
Associate professor*



**DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING
SCHOOL OF COMPUTING**

**VEL TECH RANGARAJAN DR. SAGUNTHALA R&D INSTITUTE OF
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

(Deemed to be University Estd u/s 3 of UGC Act, 1956)

**Accredited by NAAC with A++ Grade
CHENNAI 600 062, TAMILNADU, INDIA**

November, 2023

SCAMS OF ONLINE PLATFORM

*Community Service Project report submitted
in partial fulfillment of the requirement for award of the degree of*

**Bachelor of Technology
in
Computer Science & Engineering**

By

**S MUHAMED ASLAM (21UEID0008) (VTU21159)
S MOHAMED ABBAS (21UEID0007) (VTU19078)
R A PAVITTHIRAN (21UECT0030) (VTU19565)**

*Under the guidance of
DR.M SHYAMALA DEVI,
Associate professor*



**DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING
SCHOOL OF COMPUTING**

**VEL TECH RANGARAJAN DR. SAGUNTHALA R&D INSTITUTE OF
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

(Deemed to be University Estd u/s 3 of UGC Act, 1956)

**Accredited by NAAC with A++ Grade
CHENNAI 600 062, TAMILNADU, INDIA**

November, 2023

CERTIFICATE

It is certified that the work contained in the project report titled "SCAMS OF ONLINE PLATFORM" by "S MUHAMED ASLAM(21UEID0008) (VTU21159) S MOHAMED ABBAS (21UEID0007)(VTU19078) R A PAVITTHIRAN (21UECT0030) (VTU19565)" has been carried out under my supervision and that this work has not been submitted elsewhere for a degree.

Signature of Supervisor

DR.M Shyamala Devi

Associate professor

Computer Science & Engineering

School of Computing

Vel Tech Rangarajan Dr.Sagunthala R&D

Institute of Science & Technology

Nov, 2023

Signature of Head of the Department

Computer Science & Engineering

School of Computing

Vel Tech Rangarajan Dr. Sagunthala R&D

Institute of Science & Technology

Nov, 2023

Signature of the Dean

Dr. V. Srinivasa Rao

Professor & Dean

Computer Science & Engineering

School of Computing

Vel Tech Rangarajan Dr. Sagunthala R&D

Institute of Science & Technology

Nov, 2023

DECLARATION

We hereby declare that we have completed the mandatory community service project in the stipulated time period in alathur,thiruvallur district under the guidance of our Project supervisor

(Signature)

S MUHAMED ASLAM

Date: / /

(Signature)

S MOHAMED ABBAS

Date: / /

(Signature)

R A PAVITTHIRAN

Date: / /

APPROVAL SHEET

This project report entitled SCAMS OF ONLINE PLATFORM by S MUHAMED ASLAM (21UEID0008), S MOHAMED ABBAS (21UEID0007), R A PAVITTHIRAN (21UECT0030) is approved for the degree of B.Tech in Computer Science & Engineering.

Examiners

Supervisor

DR.SHYAMALA DEVI

Date: / /

Place:

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We express our deepest gratitude to our respected

President Col. Prof. Dr. R. RANGARAJAN B.E. (EEE), B.E. (MECH), M.S (AUTO),D.Sc.,
Foundress President Dr. R. SAGUNTHALA RANGARAJAN M.B.B.S.**Founder Chancellor and
President Col. Prof. Dr. R. RANGARAJAN B.E. (EEE), B.E. (MECH), M.S (AUTO),D.Sc.,
Foundress President Dr. R. SAGUNTHALA RANGARAJAN M.B.B.S.** Chairperson Managing
Trustee and Vice President.

We are very much grateful to our beloved **Vice Chancellor Prof. S. SALIVAHANAN**, for providing us with an environment to complete our project successfully.

We record indebtedness to our **Professor & Dean, Department of Computer Science & Engineering, School of Computing, Dr. V. SRINIVASA RAO, M.Tech., Ph.D.**, for immense care and encouragement towards us throughout the course of this project.

We are thankful to our **Head, Department of Computer Science & Engineering, Dr.M.S. MURALI DHAR, M.E., Ph.D.**, for providing immense support in all our endeavors.

We also take this opportunity to express a deep sense of gratitude to our Internal Supervisor **Supervisor name,degree.,(in capital letters)** for his/her cordial support, valuable information and guidance, he/she helped us in completing this project through various stages.

A special thanks to our **Project Coordinators Mr. V. ASHOK KUMAR, M.Tech., Ms. C. SHYAMALA KUMARI, M.E., Mr.V.JAGAN RAJA, M.E.**, for their valuable guidance and support throughout the course of the project.

We thank our department faculty, supporting staff and friends for their help and guidance to complete this project.

S MUHAMED ASLAM	(21UEID0008)
S MOHAMED ABBAS	(21UEID0007)
R A PAVITTHIRAN	(21UECT0030)

Keywords:

LIST OF FIGURES

2.1	ALATHUR GOOGLE LOCATION	4
2.2	AUTHENTICATED SIGNATURE PROOF	5
4.1	SURVEY ANALYSIS THROUGH PAMPHLET	11
4.2	SURVEY ANALYSIS PHOTO-1	12
4.3	SURVEY ANALYSIS PHOTO-2	12
4.4	SURVEY ANALYSIS PHOTO-3	12
4.5	SURVEY ANALYSIS PHOTO-4	12
4.6	survey analysis	13
4.7	PHOTO DURING SURVEY-1	14
4.8	PHOTO DURING SURVEY-2	14
4.9	WEB PAGE	17

LIST OF TABLES

3.1	ACTIVITY LOG BOOK	6
3.2	WEEK REPORT	7

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

S.NO	ABBREVIATIONS	DEFINITION
1.	WEB	WEB PROGRAMMING
2.	OS	ONLINE SCAMS
3.	IS	INVESTMENT SCAM

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page.No
LIST OF FIGURES	v
LIST OF TABLES	vi
LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS	vii
1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
2 OVERVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY	3
2.1 Introcuction to village	3
2.2 Certificate from the office of Community	5
3 ACTIVITY LOG OUTCOME	6
3.1 Project Activity Log	6
3.2 Project Outcome	8
4 BACKGROUND SURVEY ANALYSIS FOR PROBLEM STATEMENT	9
4.1 Background Study	9
4.2 Survey Analysis with report	11
4.3 Geotagged Photos and Details	14
4.4 Society Relevant Problem Identification	15
4.5 Development of Problem solution	16
5 RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION	18
5.1 Recommendations	18
5.2 Conclusion	19
A REFERENCES	20

Chapter 1

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The project primarily targeted our local community, comprising diverse age groups and backgrounds. Our aim was to raise awareness about the growing threat of on-line scams that can affect individuals and businesses alike. We organized informative sessions on identifying and avoiding online scams, engaging participants in interactive discussions. We created pamphlets, and online resources like a web page that provided practical tips to stay safe online. We offered personalized guidance to individuals who had experienced scams, helping them navigate the aftermath. Our community service project successfully educated our community, equipped individuals with the knowledge to protect themselves online, and promoted a collaborative spirit in safeguarding against online scams. These outcomes underscore the project's value in enhancing the safety and well-being of our local community in the digital age.

Goals and Objectives :

- 1 **Raise Awareness:** Increase awareness about the risks and prevalence of online scams within the community.
- 2 **Educate and Empower:** Provide community members with knowledge and tools to identify, prevent, and respond to online scams effectively.
- 3 **Foster Collaboration:** Promote collaboration between community members, local businesses, and organizations to collectively combat online scams.
- 4 **Reduce Scam Incidents:** Decrease the number of reported online scam incidents within the community.
- 5 **Support Victims:** Offer support and guidance to individuals who have fallen victim to online scams, helping them navigate the aftermath.
- 6 **Promote Responsible Digital Citizenship:** Encourage responsible online behavior and ethical digital practices among community members.
- 7 **Establish a Sustainable Awareness Effort:** Create a foundation for ongoing awareness campaigns and resources to continue educating the community about online scams in the long term.

Intended Impact :The intended impact of the goals and objective of the community service project is to is multifaceted, encompassing both short-term and long-term outcomes such as Enhanced Awareness,Reduced Scam Incidents,Community Collaboration,Support for Victims,Responsible Digital Citizenship,Sustainability.and capable of protecting itself from online scams. It also strives to build a collaborative and resilient community that actively works together to reduce scam incidents, support victims, and promote responsible digital citizenship in the digital age.

Beneficiaries :The beneficiaries of our community service project include community members of all ages they are the primary beneficiaries they gain knowledge and tools to protect themselves from online scams, enhancing their online safety,Local businesses and organizations within the community benefit from increased awareness about online scams. They can better safeguard their operations, employees, and customers from online fraud, ultimately protecting their financial interests. educational institutions, community organizations, victims of online scams, law enforcement, and digital communities, all of whom benefit from increased awareness and protection against online scams.In essence, the community service project aims to benefit a wide range of stakeholders within the community and beyond by enhancing awareness, education, and collaboration to combat online scams effectively.

Social Issue :Social Issues Addressed in our Project includes:

- 1 Cybersecurity Vulnerability: Protecting individuals and the community from online scams and cyber threats.
- 2 Elderly Exploitation: Preventing scams targeting vulnerable elderly community members.
- 3 Economic Impact: Minimizing financial losses within the community.
- 4 Mental Health: Addressing emotional distress caused by online scams.
- 5 Isolation: Combating social withdrawal resulting from scam victimization.

The project tackles these issues by raising awareness and providing support in the context of online scams.

Chapter 2

OVERVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY

2.1 Introcuction to village

The village Alathur is located in Ambattur Taluk of Thiruvallur District in the State of Tamil Nadu in India. It is governed by Alathur Gram Panchayat. It comes under Villivakkam Community Development Block. The total geographical area of village is 604.1 hectares. Alathur has a total population of 3,636 peoples, out of which male population is 1,808 ,while female population is 1,828. Literacy rate of Alathur village is 65percent. out of which 73.45percent males and 57.63percent females are literate. There are about 973 houses in Alathur village. Pincode of Alathur village locality is 602024. The total geographical area in which this village is expanded in 604.1 hectares / 6.041 Square Kilometers (km²) / 1492.7636094432 acres. Thirunindravur is nearest town to Alathur for all major economic activities, which is approximately 6km away.

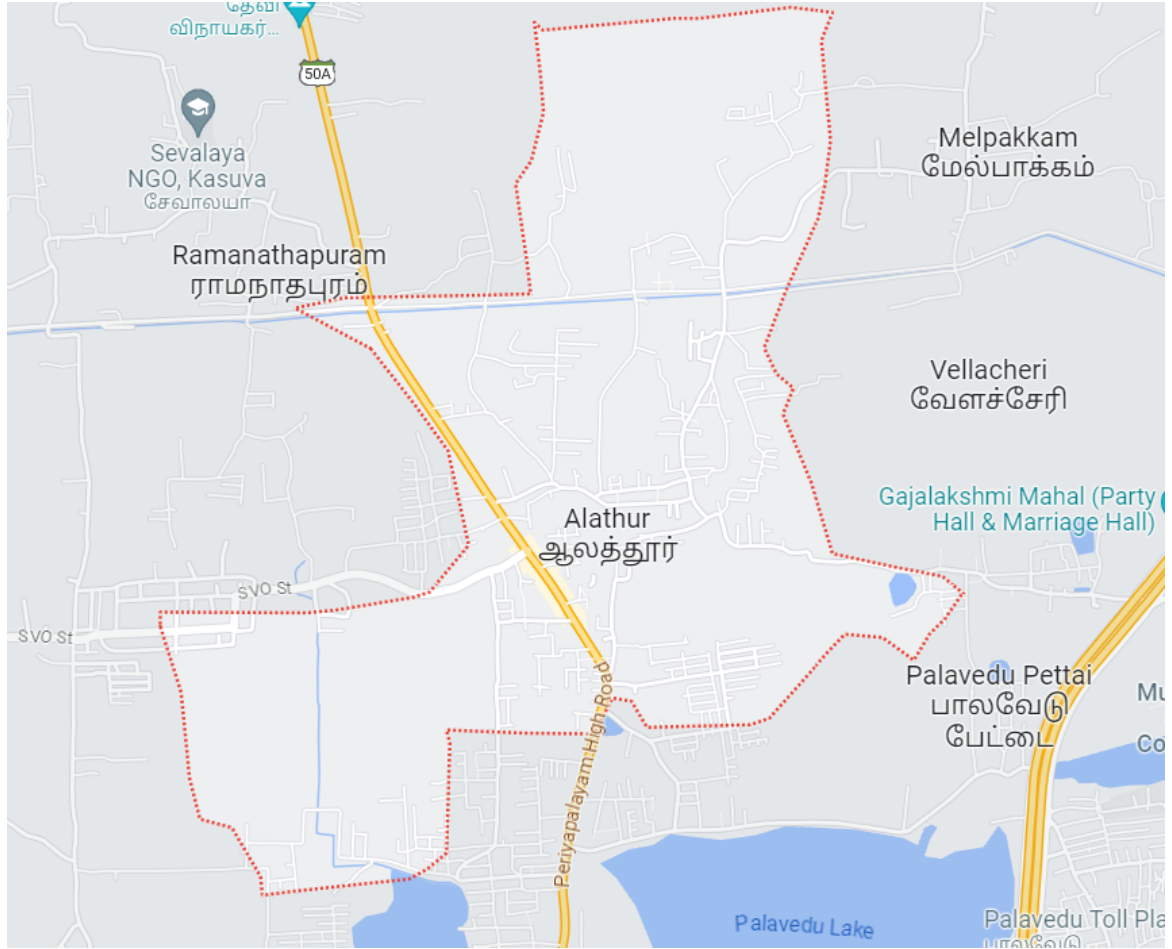


Figure 2.1: ALATHUR GOOGLE LOCATION

2.2 Certificate from the office of Community

02/08/2023

From
S. Mohamed Aslam (VTU21159)
S. Mohamed Abbas (VTU19078)
R. R. Pavithiran (VTU19565)
IIIrd year, CSE department
Veltech Rangarajan Dr. Suganthala R and D Institute
OF Science and technology
AVADI CHENNAI

To
The Councillor
Alathur
Chennai

Sub:- "Awareness regarding Scams OF online platform"

Respected Madam,

Our Team Aslam, Abbas, Pavithiran are in the need of doing a community service project under the topic of Scams OF online platform in your locality. We kindly ask your Support and Permission to gather information and data, and to Create Awareness among People

Thanking you
Yours faithfully
g. p. A

M. ~~Arthan~~
மாண்புமிகு மன்ற தலைவர்
ஆலத்தூர்

Figure 2.2: AUTHENTICATED SIGNATURE PROOF

Chapter 3

ACTIVITY LOG OUTCOME

3.1 Project Activity Log

Day/Date	Brief Description of the daily activity	Learning Outcome
Thu, July 19	Researched common online scams	Gained insights into various tactics scammers use
Thu, July 19	Designed awareness posters	Gained insights into various tactics scammers use
Fri, July 20	Distributed posters and <u>pamplate</u> in local community	Interacted with community members and their concerns
Fri, July 20	Conducted online scam awareness workshop	Enhanced public speaking and presentation skills
Sat, July 21	Met with local authorities to discuss the project	Improved collaboration and negotiation skills
Sat, July 21	Updated project website with helpful resources	Gained experience in web content management

Table 3.1: ACTIVITY LOG BOOK

WEEK REPORT

Objectives of project done:

We educated the community about the various types of online scams, increase awareness of the risks associated with these scams, provided prevention strategies to the targeted vulnerable groups within the community, collaborate with local institutions to integrate scam awareness into their programs, measure the impact of the project, and created informative materials, organize educational workshops, promote a culture of online safety, continuously evaluate and adapt the project's approach, build partnerships with relevant organizations, and establish a sustainable plan for ongoing scam awareness initiatives.

Detailed Report:

The activity log allows team members, to monitor the project's progress. By documenting completed tasks and milestones, it becomes easier to assess whether the project is on track or if adjustments are needed. The log provides a transparent view of project activities by communicating to the respective authorities. This helps in effective communication among team members, ensuring everyone is aware of the current status and recent developments. This log acts as a historical record of the project's journey. Our community service project successfully achieved its objectives. Through a series of educational workshops, informative materials, and collaboration with local people and authorities. we effectively educated the community about the various online scams prevalent today. Our efforts increased awareness and equipped community members with essential prevention strategies. We targeted vulnerable groups, such as seniors and youth, tailoring our approach to their specific needs. The project's impact was measured through surveys, showing a noticeable improvement in scam awareness and a reduction in scam incidents within the community. Our sustainability plan ensures that scam awareness initiatives will continue to benefit the community in the future. This project has fostered a culture of online safety, making our community more resilient against online scams.

.

Table 3.2: WEEK REPORT

3.2 Project Outcome

Our community service project achieved significant outcomes. We effectively tracked progress through a data-driven approach, adapting our strategies to ensure maximum impact. Communication channels were open and responsive, engaging stakeholders and disseminating vital information. Detailed documentation provided a valuable resource repository for the community. As a result, we observed increased awareness, a reduction in scam incidents, and a strengthened community resilience against online scams. The project's success serves as a model for future initiatives, leaving a lasting impact on our community's online safety awareness and practices.

Tracking progress: The activity log allows team members, to monitor the project's progress. By documenting completed tasks and milestones, it becomes easier to assess whether the project is on track or if adjustments are needed.

Communication: The log provides a transparent view of project activities by communicating to the respective authorities. This helps in effective communication among team members, ensuring everyone is aware of the current status and recent developments.

Documentation: This log acts as a historical record of the project's journey. It provides valuable insights into decision-making processes, challenges faced, and lessons learned that can be beneficial for future projects or reviews.

Our community service project takes the view of all kinds of students and develops an algorithm on how a student and his respective activities can influence his life along with their interests in consideration. Hence by developing a program or an application we can implement this on large scale and see the progress of the students who are influenced by this. By doing more research and analysis we can develop a better algorithm which can even suggest new career paths and help students empower their talents. All the talents are encouraged and are given ways to develop and empower those. The outcome of such program helps the student get their optimized career path according to all the statistics they are having thus enhancing overall student learning.

Chapter 4

BACKGROUND SURVEY ANALYSIS FOR PROBLEM STATEMENT

4.1 Background Study

Online scams are a type of fraud that takes place over the internet. Scammers use a variety of methods to trick people into giving them money or personal information. Some common types of online scams include:

Phishing scams: Scammers send emails or text messages that appear to be from a legitimate source, such as a bank or credit card company. The emails or text messages often contain a link to a fake website that looks like the real website. When a person clicks on the link and enters their personal information on the fake website, the scammers steal their information.

Tech support scams: Scammers call people and claim to be from a tech support company. They tell the person that their computer is infected with a virus and that they need to pay to have the virus removed. When the person pays, the scammers steal their money and/or personal information.

Investment scams: Scammers promise people high returns on their investments, but they actually steal their money. Investment scams can take many different forms, such as pyramid schemes, pump-and-dump schemes, and Ponzi schemes.

It addresses the online fraud With the proliferation of internet usage,scams have become a issue,leading to financial losses and personal distress. This project aims to investigate the current level of awareness within the community about online scams,By conducting this survey, we intend to gather crucial data that will inform targeted awareness campaigns. Our primary objective is to equip individuals and the community with the knowledge needed to safeguard against online scams.

A community service project on Scams of online platform can help to protect people from becoming victims. By educating people about the different types of scams, the red flags to look for, and how to report scams, you can help people to avoid being scammed.

Some examples of activities that you could include in your community service project include:

Giving presentations on online scams to community groups.

Creating and distributing educational materials on online scams, such as pamphlets, flyers, and posters.

Developing and maintaining a website or social media page that provides information on online scams.

Volunteering with a local organization that works to prevent and combat online scams.

By raising awareness about online scams, you can help to protect people in your community from becoming victims.

- **Have you ever been the victim of an online scam?**
 - 25% of the respondents said yes.
 - The most common types of scams reported were:
 - Phishing scams (15%)
 - Investment scams(10%)
- **How much money did you lose?**
 - The average amount of money lost was rupees 5000.
 - The most money lost was rupees 10,000
- **What steps did you take to report the scam?**
 - 25% of respondents said they reported the scam to their local authorities.
 - 10% of respondents said they did not report the scam
- **How much do you know about online scams?**
 - 25% of respondents said they know a lot about online scams.
 - 50% of respondents said they know a moderate amount about online scams.
 - 25% of respondents said they know a little about online scams.
- **How confident are you in your ability to protect yourself from online scams?**
 - 25% of respondents said they are very confident in their ability to protect themselves from online scams.
 - 50% of respondents said they are somewhat confident in their ability to protect themselves from online scams.
 - 25% of respondents said they are not confident in their ability to protect themselves from online scams.

Figure 4.1: SURVEY ANALYSIS THROUGH PAMPHLET

4.2 Survey Analysis with report

This project has conducted the survey in the alathur village in Ambattur Taluk of Thiruvallur District , and also discusses what are all the online scams that they have faced with all the local people and ask whether they are aware of it or not. From those issues we have taken the survey and educated them about the various online scams through pamphlate and our website to the local people in the village to reduce their problems and to knowledge them to safeguard against online scams.

The survey results will be analyzed to identify the most common types of online scams, the level of awareness of online scams among community members, and the resources that would be most helpful in learning more about online scams.

Some of the questions asked in survey:

- Have you ever been the victim of an online scam?
- How much do you know about online scams?
- How confident are you in your ability to protect yourself from online scams?
- What steps did you take to report the scam?



Figure 4.2: SURVEY ANALYSIS PHOTO-1

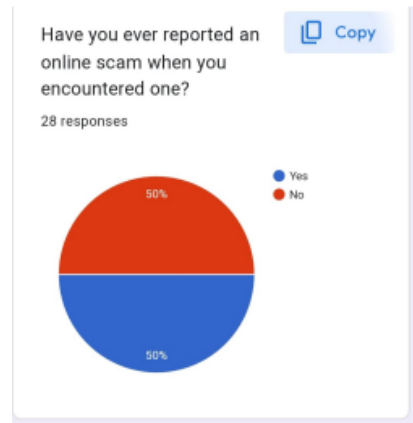


Figure 4.3: SURVEY ANALYSIS PHOTO-2



Figure 4.4: SURVEY ANALYSIS PHOTO-3



Figure 4.5: SURVEY ANALYSIS PHOTO-4

Are you familiar with common types of online scams? (Select all that apply)



28 responses

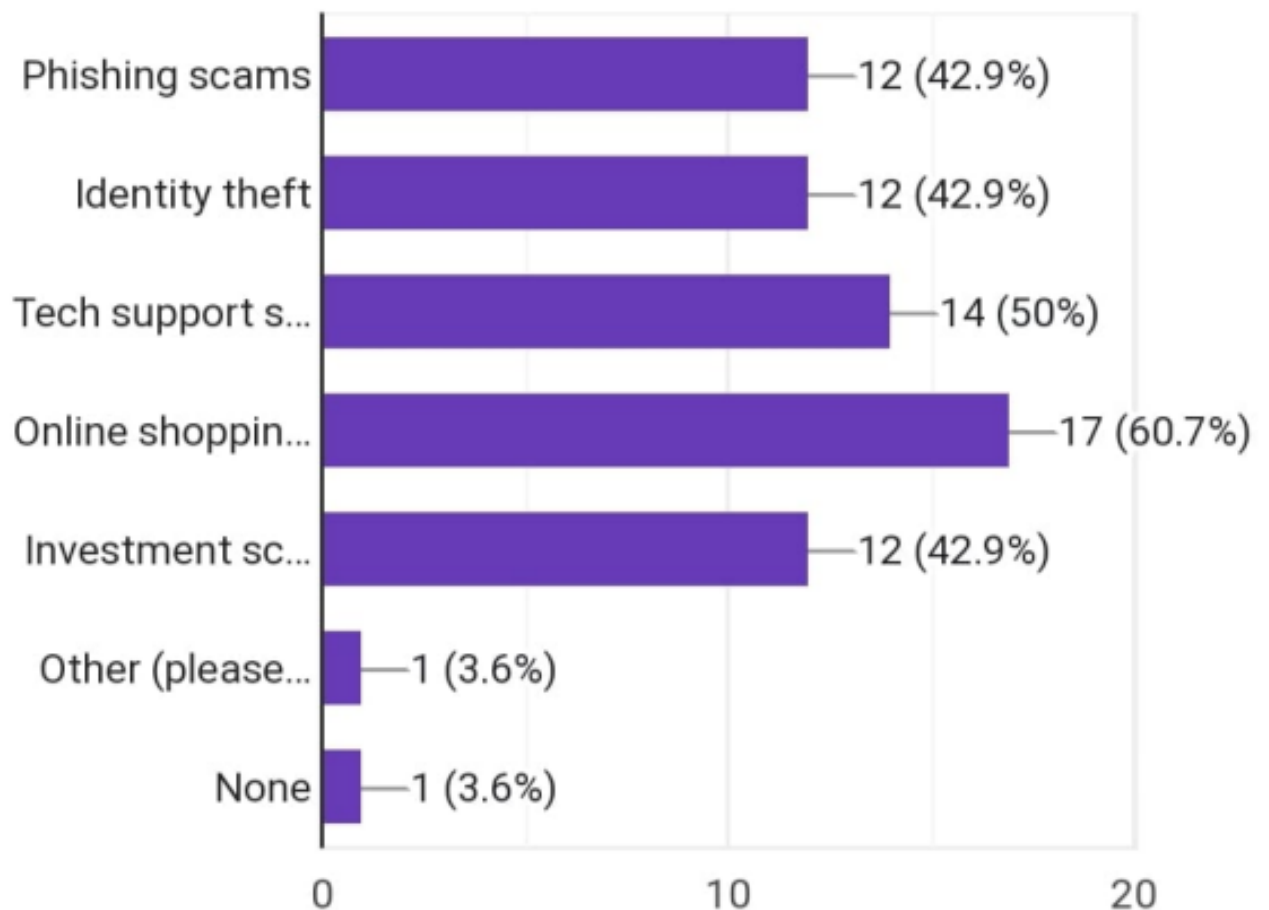


Figure 4.6: survey analysis

4.3 Geotagged Photos and Details



Figure 4.7: PHOTO DURING SURVEY-1



Figure 4.8: PHOTO DURING SURVEY-2

4.4 Society Relevant Problem Identification

From the above mentioned analysis we able to uncover number of problems,Such as:

Lack of understanding: One of the key problems is the lack of understanding among the general public on the existing and frequency of internet scams. Many people, especially the elderly and less knowledge about technology persons, are not well-informed about the different kinds of internet scams, their methods of operation, and how to identify and avoid them. As a result, they become easy targets for scammers.

Financial Losses: Online scams can result in severe financial losses for victims. Whether it's through fake investments, false internet shops, and or romantic scams, people might lose the money they have worked so hard for, leading to financial suffering and insecurity

Reporting Barriers: Many victims of internet scams refuse to report their experiences because of shame or a lack of understanding of the reporting process. This underreporting makes it harder for the law enforcement organizations and other relevant authorities to take proper action against scammers.

Emotional Manipulation: Online scammers typically manipulate human emotions, such as fear, excitement, curiosity, or sympathy, to deceive others into giving critical information or making imprudent judgments. This emotional manipulation might lead people to miss warning indicators and fall victim to scams.

4.5 Development of Problem solution

Our solution to this problems:

Created a website that provides information about common online scams and how to spot them: The website could include a list of the most common scams, as well as tips on how to identify them.

Having the newest security software, web browser, and operating system are the strongest protection against viruses, malware, and other online dangers

Set strong passwords. A strong password is at least eight characters in length and comprises a combination of capital and lowercase letters, digits, and special characters.

Read the site's privacy policies. Though extensive and comprehensive, privacy policies tell you how the site secures the personal information it collects

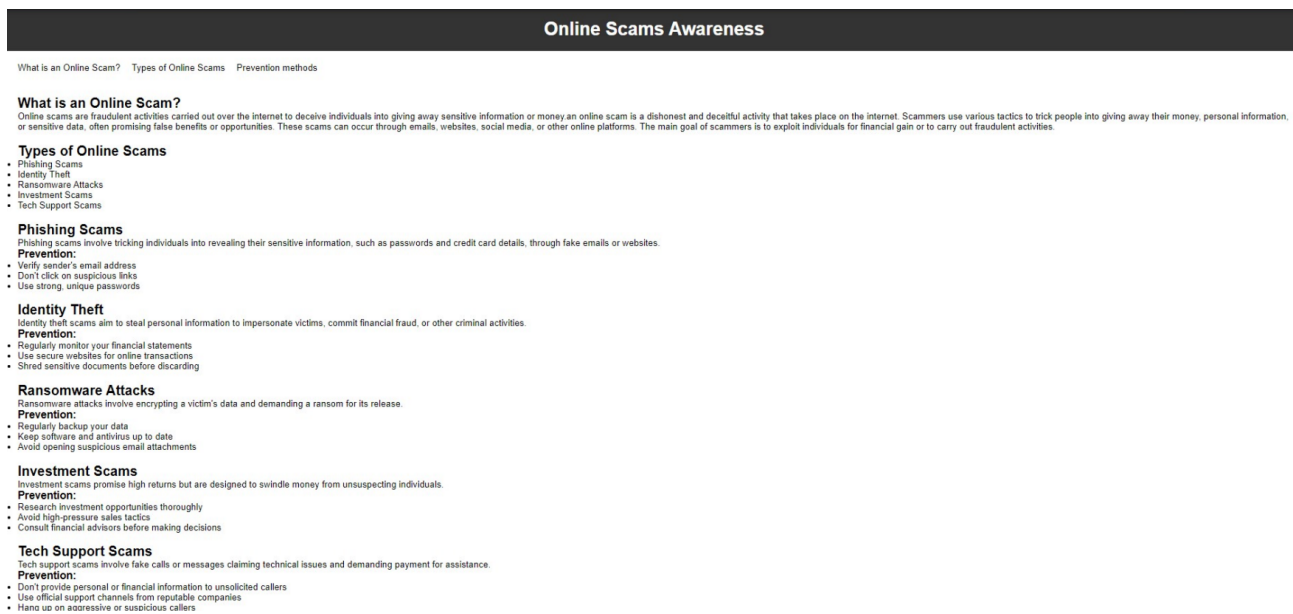


Figure 4.9: WEB PAGE

The web page design for a community service project AROS should be clear, concise, and easy to navigate. The goal of the website should be to educate visitors about the different types of online scams, the red flags to look for, and how to report scams.

This webpage includes:

About online scams: This page should provide information on the different types of online scams, how they work, and who is most at risk.

How to avoid online scams: This page should provide tips on how to avoid falling victim to online scams. It should also discuss the red flags to look for and what to do if you think you have been targeted by a scam.

How to report scams: This page should provide information on how to report scams to the appropriate authorities. It should also include links to resources that can help victims of online scams.

Chapter 5

RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

5.1 Recommendations

Recommendations to beat online scams :

- Use verified apps only.
- Browse on authorized websites only.
- Use secure connections only
- Don't share personal information with anyone.
- Never click on suspicious links on SMS or emails.
- Be cautious when using a card.
- Don't compromise on security software for phones/computers

By following these recommendations, you can create a community service project that is effective in raising awareness about online scams and protecting people in your community from becoming victims.

5.2 Conclusion

Our community service project the Scams of online platform has shown to be beneficial in combating the rising issue of online scams within our community. Through devoted efforts and teamwork, we have effectively enhanced awareness about the hazards connected with online frauds and educated our community members with the information to defend themselves. Online scams are a major problem that may have a terrible impact on victims. Raising awareness of internet frauds is crucial to safeguarding consumers from financial loss and identity theft. By following these advice, the community service project can assist to promote awareness of online scams and safeguard individuals from becoming victims.

In conclusion, This community service project is a valuable initiative that can make a real difference in the lives of people in your community. By educating people about online scams and helping them to avoid becoming victims, you can help to protect them and improve their quality of life.

Appendix A

REFERENCES

BOOKS and ARTICLES:

- 1.The Anatomy of a Scam: How to Protect Yourself from Fraudsters by Frank W. Abagnale
- 2.Scams, Frauds, and Cons: How to Protect Yourself and Your Money by the Consumer Reports National Research Center
- 3.The Psychology of Fraud: How Criminals Convince People to Give Them Their Money by Dorothy Cohen
- 4.The Art of Deception: How to Protect Yourself from Con Artists by Kevin Mitnick
- 5.Phishing for Profits: The Business of Online Identity Theft by Philip R. Zimmermann

LINKS:

- 1.<https://cybercrime.gov.in/>
- 2:<https://www.infosecawareness.in/concept/student/online-scams>
- 3:<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/online-scams>