

Incident Report

1. What triggered the alert?

Manual inspection detected a suspicious script (**fakebackup.sh**) running in the background that was not part of standard operations.

2. What was the script doing?

The script printed a message indicating a **Simulated backup operation** and then slept for **60 seconds**. While harmless in this case, such behaviour is typical in malware to delay execution or appear legitimate.

3. Which user executed it?

User **karthik** executed the script.

Recommendations:

1. Enable File Integrity Monitoring

Deploy tools such as **AIDE (Advanced Intrusion Detection Environment)** or **OSSEC** to monitor critical system files for unauthorized changes. This helps detect tampering or stealthy script deployments early.

2. Restrict Execution in /tmp Directory

Reconfigure the system to mount the /tmp directory with the noexec option to prevent execution of scripts or binaries stored there:

```
sudo mount -o remount,noexec /tmp
```

You can also update /etc/fstab to make this change persistent across reboots.

3. User Awareness and Training

Educate users on the risks of executing unknown or unverified scripts. Conduct regular cybersecurity awareness sessions and simulate phishing/script-based attack scenarios to reinforce best practices.