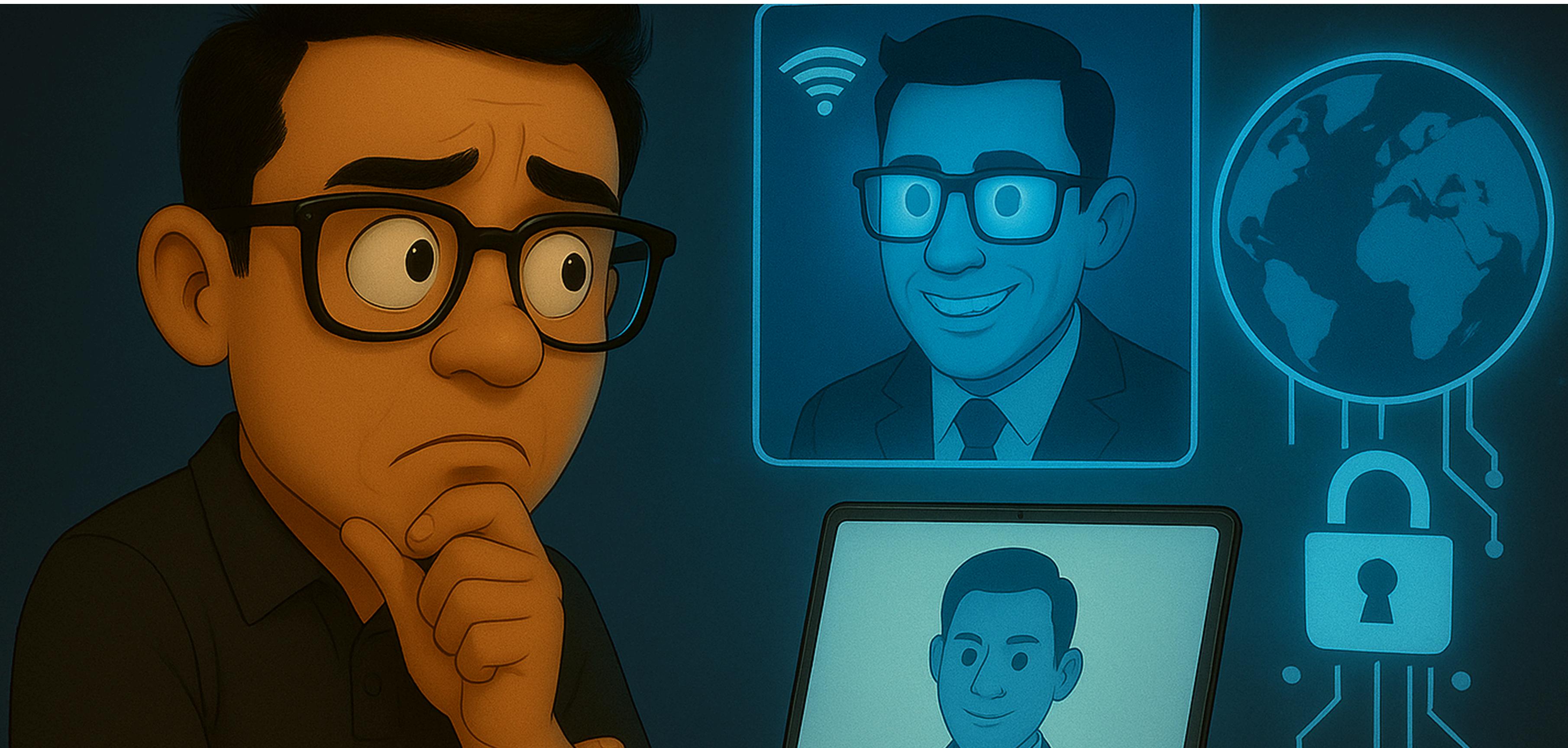


Cyber Fraud Alert – Identity Misuse in Fake Remote Job Scam



Objective of Report

This report is created to raise an alert about the misuse of a real individual's identity (Ms. Poonam Aarohi) and a growing scam operation on Telegram and WhatsApp involving fraudulent job offers. The purpose is to provide evidence for investigation and help prevent financial fraud for other individuals.

Scam Workflow Overview

1. Victim receives a message on WhatsApp from an unknown number:+91 98876 48345 (Name used: Ved Pr / Sneha Verma).
 2. WhatsApp scammer offers part-time job with daily payments.
 3. Once the victim agrees, they are redirected to a Telegram ID:@Sharmila12580 (Name used: M. Sharmila – Receptionist).
 4. The Telegram ID uses a profile photo and identity of a real person: Poonam Aarohi, Senior Recruiter at Opendoor.
Scammer claims to operate from:
 - Plot 14, Ameriprise Financial, Udyog Vihar, Sector 18, Gurugram, Haryana 122015, India
- After initial tasks, user is asked to pay/perform further actions for “payment release.”

Timeline of Incident (Step-by-Step)

- Initial Contact via WhatsApp (14 July, 08:54 AM)

Received a message from unknown WhatsApp number: +91 98876 48345

Identity used: Claimed to be “Sneha Verma,” age 28 from Mumbai.

Offered a part-time remote job with daily pay ₹5K-₹20K.

Asked to complete small Instagram-like tasks in exchange for payment.

- Completion of First Task

The task involved following an Instagram page.

After completion, I was asked for my age and told that a receptionist will handle my payment.

I was redirected to a Telegram ID: @Sharmila12580

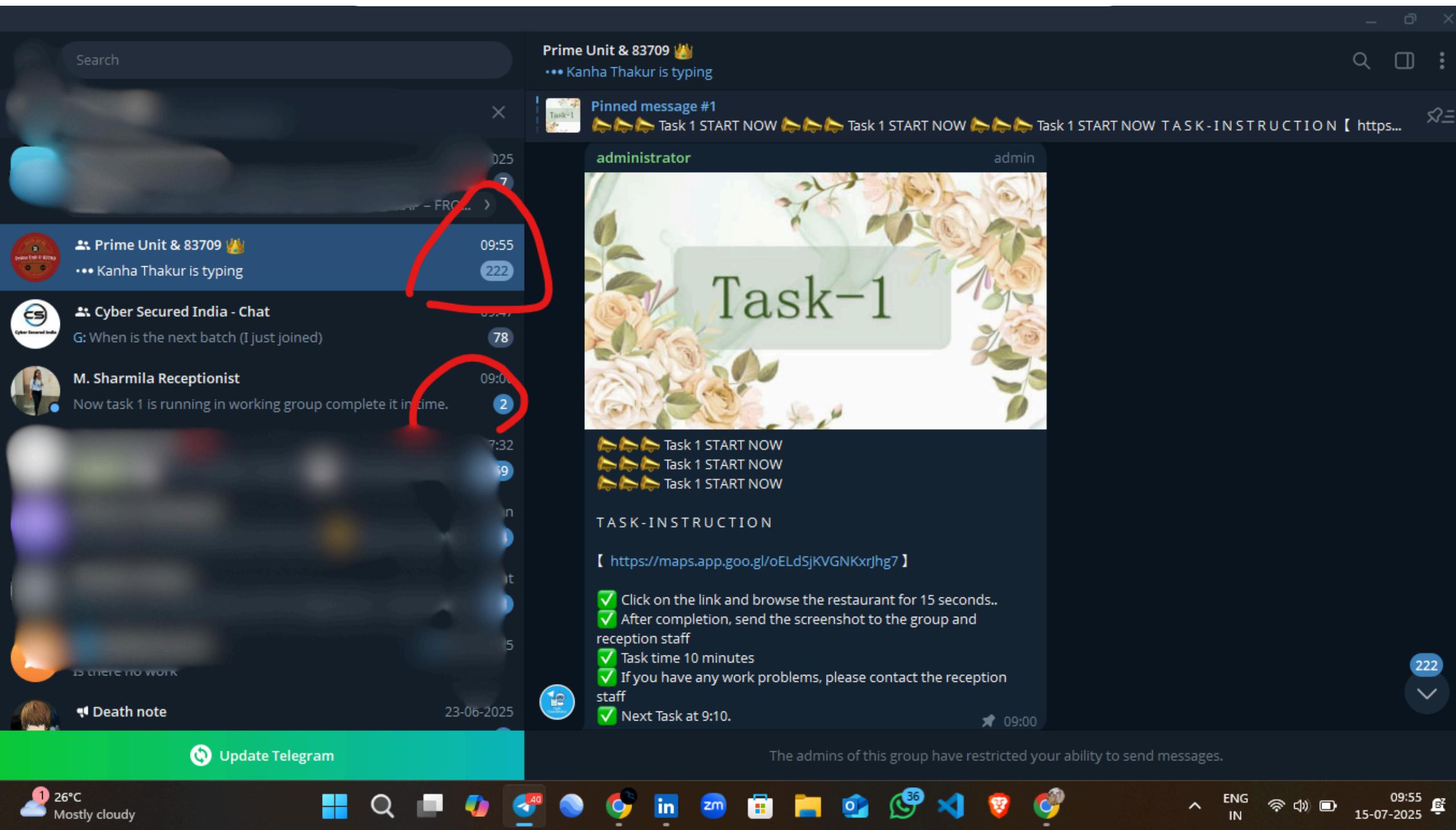
Person claimed to be: M. Sharmila (Receptionist)

Telegram Interaction

Joined a Telegram group: “ Prime Unit & 83709  ”

Provided a promo code (S1HB2) and personal details for “payment release.”

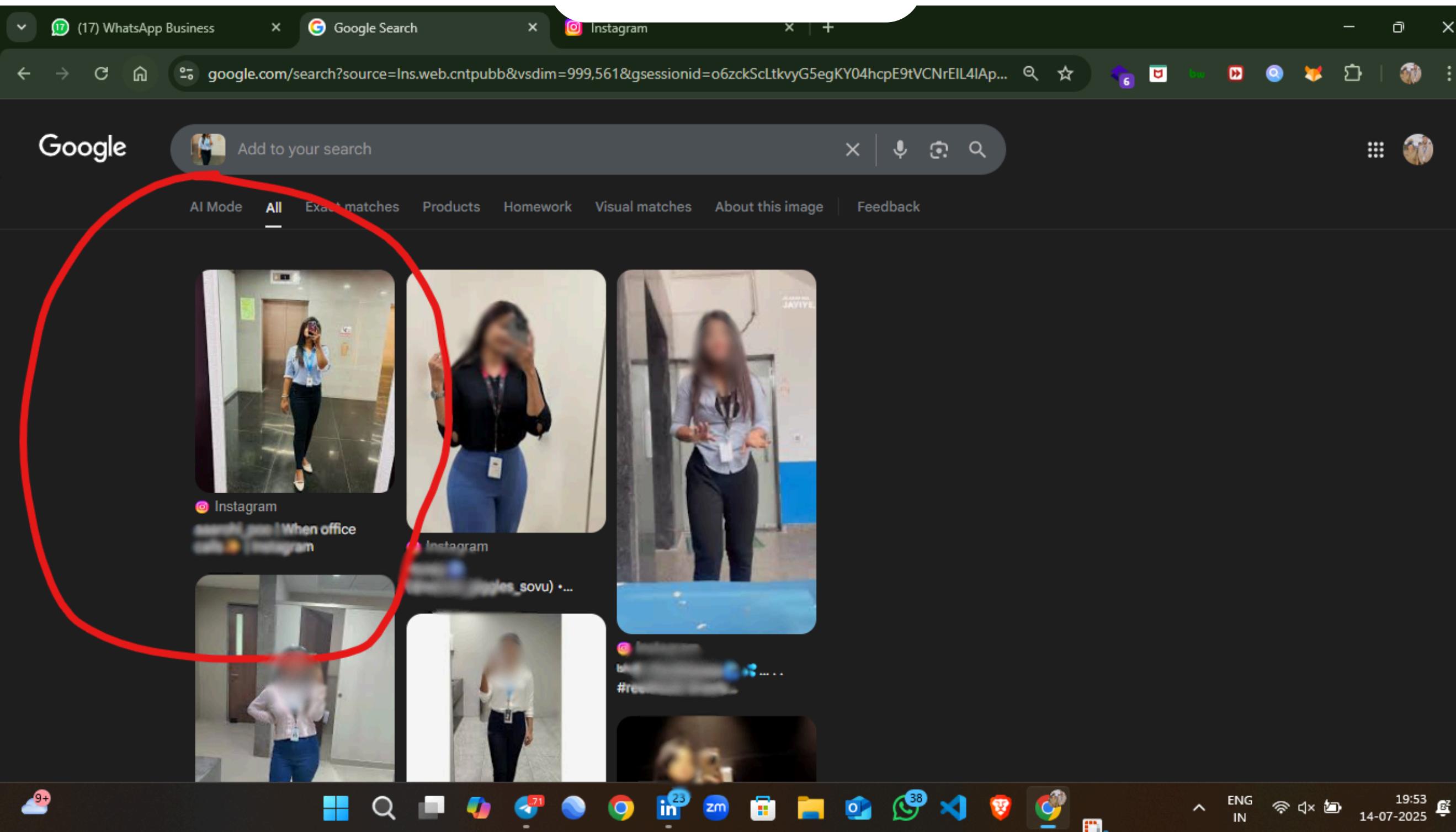
Group had scheduled tasks like clicking on random Google Map/URL links and sending screenshots.



Identity Misuse Identified

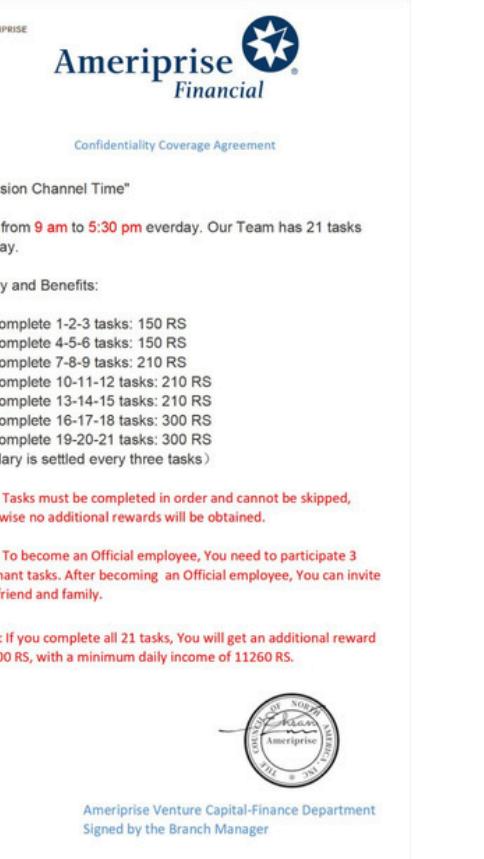
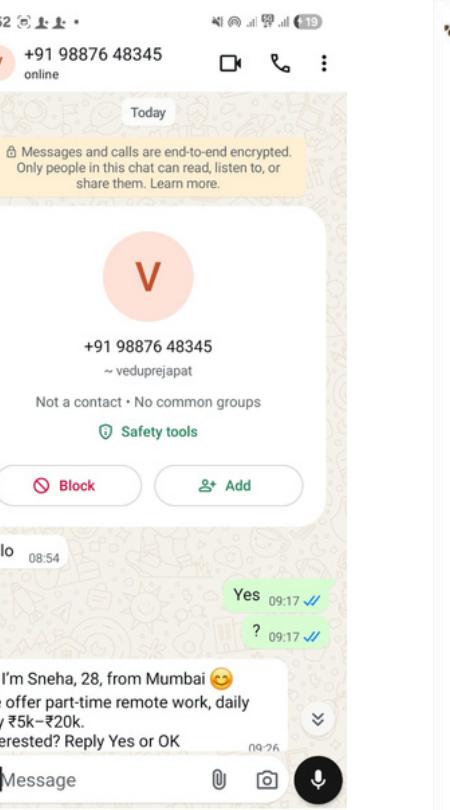
The profile picture used by “M. Sharmila” was found to belong to a real LinkedIn profile: Poonam Aarohi – Senior Recruiter at Opendoor

Suspected that her identity was being impersonated by scammers to appear legitimate.

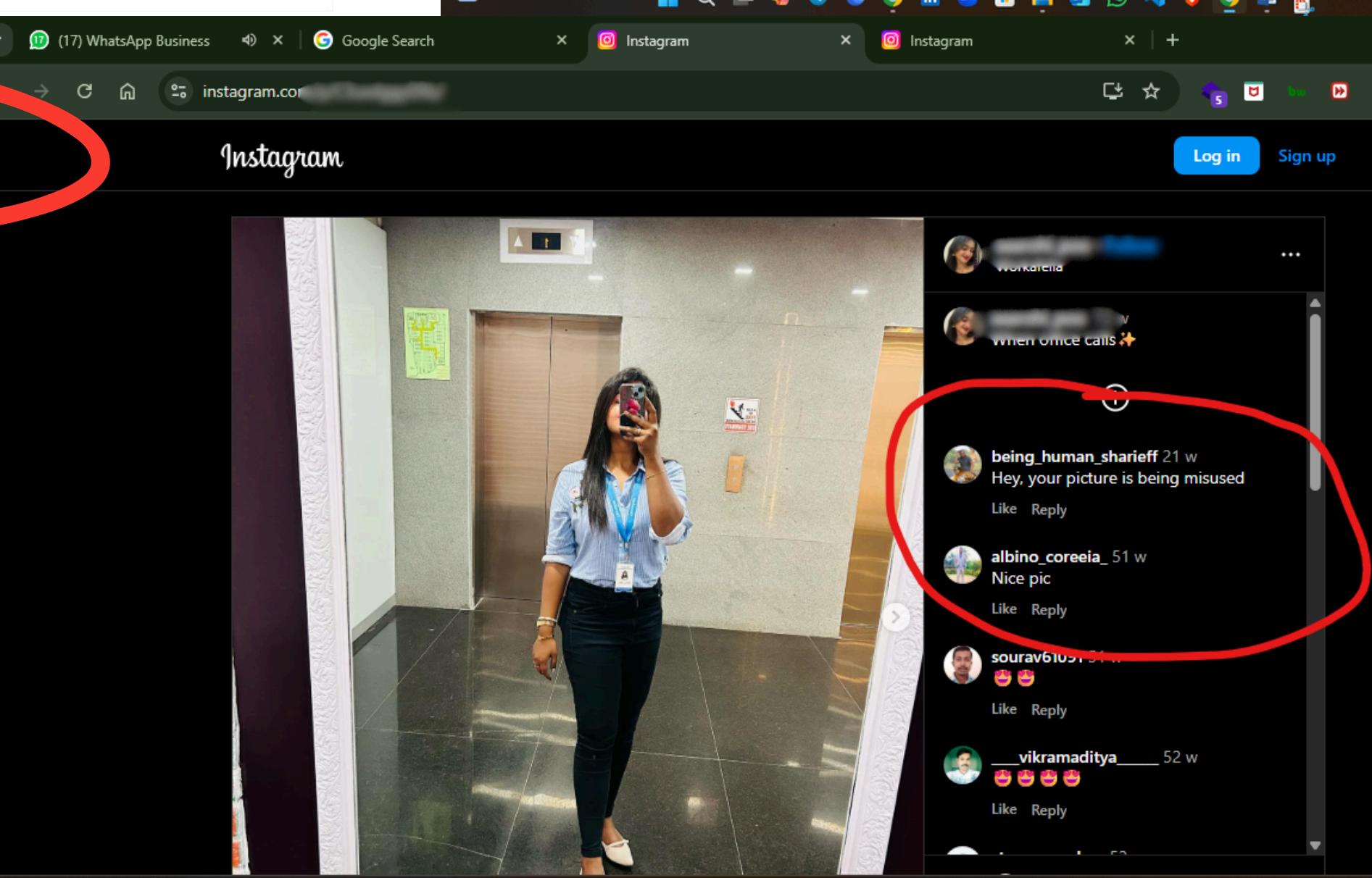
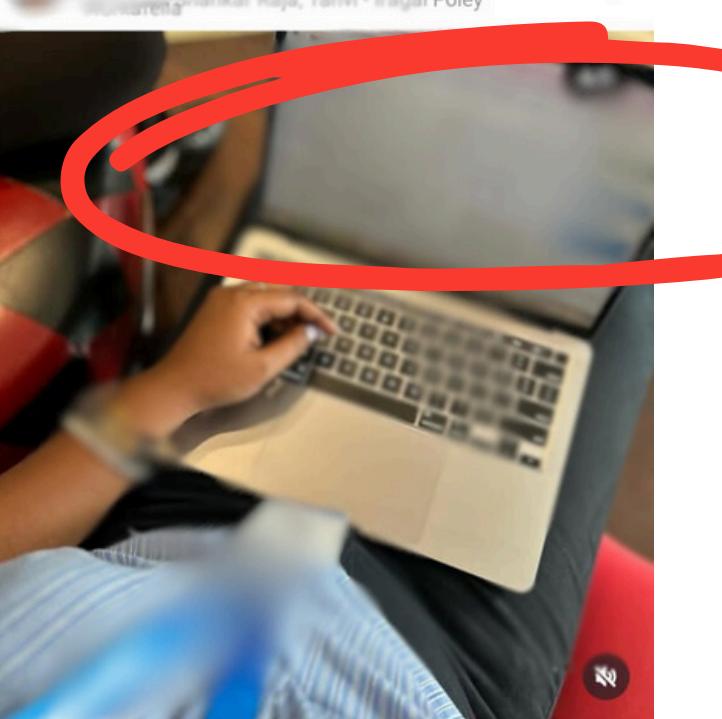


Identity Misuse Identified

The profile picture used by “M. Sharmila” was found to belong to a real LinkedIn profile:Poonam Aarohi – Senior Recruiter at Opendoor Suspected that her identity was being impersonated by scammers to appear legitimate.



linkedin.com/in/poonam-aarohi-b5067b1a5/?originalSubdomain=in
Poonam Aarohi Senior Recruiter
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Recruiting Human Resources Executive 5 mos
Your invitation to connect was sent X 5 mos
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Payment Transaction

Received ₹100 via UPI from:

MRS SALIMA BEGUM | UPI ID: XXXXXXXX7149@pthdfc

This appeared to be a bait tactic to gain trust for larger fraud attempts.

Technical Investigation

Ethical tracing methods used to analyze scam links (sent via Telegram).

IP address traced: 157.48.195.231

Location: Hyderabad, India

ISP: Reliance Jio

Indicates strong possibility that WhatsApp and Telegram scammer are same person.

LinkedIn & OSINT Validation

Found the real identity via reverse image search on Instagram and LinkedIn.

Person (Poonam Aarohi) unaware of scam.

Professional alert email composed and sent.

Complaint Filed

Report submitted successfully to:

Telegram (abuse@telegram.org)

@notoscam Bot on Telegram

National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (cybercrime.gov.in)

Acknowledgement No.: 2270*****

Suspect Details (As Collected)

Platform	Identity Used	Detail
WhatsApp	Sneha Verma Veduprejapat	+91 98876 48345
Telegram	M. Sharmil(Receptionist)	@Sharmila12580
Group	Prime Unit & 83709 	<u>Link</u>
UPI Sender	Mrs. Salima Begum	XXXXXXX7149@pthdfc

Type of Scam

Online Job Fraud

Impersonation & Identity Theft

Task-based psychological manipulation

Financial baiting via small UPI payments

Cybersecurity Researcher: Hareesh Kumar

LinkedIn:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/hareesh-kumar-02045a339/>