**REPORT: Unknown Video Calls on WhatsApp Scam**

**Date: June 11, 2023**

**Subject:** WhatsApp Scam Alert - Protecting Users from Unknown Video Calls

**Introduction:**

Scammers are continuously adapting and finding new methods to exploit unsuspecting users, and one such method involves targeting users through unknown video calls on WhatsApp. This report aims to raise awareness about this particular scam, where hackers attempt to record video calls to steal personal information and engage in fraudulent activities.

**Description of the Scam:**

In this scam, users receive video calls on their WhatsApp from international numbers. The caller's intention is to record the recipient's video during the call and use it for identity theft or false use. Additionally, users may receive messages from unknown numbers offering job opportunities or monetary benefits as a means to entrap them further. Many individuals have fallen victim to this scam, often unknowingly reaching out to the police from the same number they received the call. However, this approach is ineffective as hackers can manipulate identities and mislead victims to disclose sensitive information, leading to unauthorized access to their bank accounts and financial loss.

**Preventive Measures and Reporting:**

To protect themselves from this WhatsApp scam, users must remain vigilant and take immediate action upon encountering such incidents. Here are recommended steps to follow:

1. Do not engage or respond: If you receive an unknown video call or message from an international number, refrain from answering the call or responding to the message. Do not provide any personal information or details requested.

2. Report to the Cybercrime Department:

a. Virtual method: Report the fraud online by visiting the official website of the cybercrime department, cybercrime.gov.in. Follow the provided procedure to document and report the incident for investigation. Additionally, users can report the scam directly through WhatsApp, providing the platform an opportunity to take appropriate action.

b. Physical method: Report the scam by following these steps:

- Report and block the contact: Report the contact as spam or block the unknown number to prevent further communication.

- Disconnect from the network: Put your phone on flight mode or disconnect it from the network to ensure that the hackers cannot manipulate your identity or gain unauthorized access.

- Register a complaint: Use another phone or device to register a complaint with the nearest police station or cybercrime branch. Provide them with all the relevant details and information regarding the incident.

- File an FIR: If necessary, file a First Information Report (FIR) at the nearest police station, providing a detailed account of the scam.

3. Report via phone call: Users can also report the scam by calling the dedicated helpline number for the cybercrime department at 155260. This allows users to provide essential details and seek guidance on further actions to take.

**Conclusion:**

The unknown video call scam on WhatsApp is a growing threat that exploits users' trust and technological vulnerabilities. By remaining cautious, promptly reporting suspicious activity, and refraining from disclosing personal information or engaging with unknown numbers, users can protect themselves from falling victim to such scams.

Remember: Stay informed, exercise caution, and report any fraudulent activity to the relevant authorities. Together, we can create a safer digital environment.

Stay safe and vigilant,

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