

## **'Saposhi' a new malware threat to the cyberspace**

### **What in news:**

- Recently cybersecurity agencies have detected a new malware called Saposhi which can be used for a 'Distributed Denial Of Service attack.
- It was detected after Mirai and Reaper malware and it is similar in its intensity to Reaper.

### **About the news:**

- 'Saposhi' is a new malware loom and can be a big threat to the cyberspace
- It is capable of taking over electronic devices and turning them into bots which can be used for multi-purpose like a DDoS attack.
- It has the capability of taking over millions of device at the rate of 10,000 devices per day.
- It is aimed at DDoS attack by creating a botnet (Network of Bots) which is used to ping a single server at the same time.
- The large botnet attacks to the server can crash the server and denied service to its consumer.

### **Functioning of malware:**

- A! malware programmed with specific instructions which direct the malware to take over as many devices connected to the internet as possible.
- The malware turns internet-connected devices into 'bots' and starts building a botnet depending on its programming.
- Malware like Reaper and Saposhi are capable of identifying weaknesses in devices and exploiting them to turn the devices into bots.
- The creation of botnet by the malware like Saposhi, Reaper causing a server failure by sending simultaneous pings to the targeted server.
- Depending on the size of the botnet, malware can execute multiple DDOS attacks at the same time, or over a period of time.

**Government initiative:**

to deal with the issue Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT), a central government body that deals with the cyber-attacks, had issued an alert about Saposhi and malware like Reaper and other.

**Expected prelims question**

Recently saposhi was in news. It is related to

- a) Amphi aircraft
- b) Malware

- c) Spaceship
- d) None of above

Ans – b

**Expected mains question**

Q) Recently cybersecurity agencies have detected a new malware called Saposhi. Analyse its features and add a note on central government initiatives to curb this malware.