Murt Sayeed Lab11

1. Scan the APK file using VirusTotal. What is the detection ratio as returned by VirusTotal?

27/62, where 27 security vendors flagged this as malicious

2. Using apktool on Kali Linux, extract the contents of the APK file via apktool d <name_of_app.apk>. Take a look at the AndroidManifest.xml file. What permissions do the app have access to? Do any of the permissions look peculiar?

Some of the permissions:

android.permission.ACCESS_FINE_LOCATION android.permission.SEND_SMS android.permission.READ_PHONE_STATE android.permission.ACCESS_COARSE_LOCATION android.permission.INTERNET android.permission.READ_CONTACTS android.permission.RECEIVE_BOOT_COMPLETED android.permission.ACCESS_NETWORK_STATE android.permission.FOREGROUND_SERVICE android.permission.ACCESS_WIFI_STATE

Peculiar permissions:

android.permission.SEND_SMS android.permission.READ_PHONE_STATE android.permission.ACCESS_COARSE_LOCATION android.permission.INTERNET android.permission.READ_CONTACTS

3. Take a further look at the AndroidManifest.xml file, are there any peculiar activities or Java packages referenced?

These activities/packages are mostly based out of com.jadhalno.goplotu

com.jadhalno.goplotu.Alt
com.jadhalno.goplotu.Fini
com.jadhalno.goplotu.Special
com.jadhalno.goplotu.login
com.jadhalno.goplotu.MainActivity
com.startapp.sdk.adsbase.consent.ConsentActivity
com.startapp.sdk.ads.list3d.List3DActivity
com.startapp.sdk.adsbase.activities.OverlayActivity
com.startapp.sdk.adsbase.activities.FullScreenActivity

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4. Take a look at all the files in the resources folder res. Are there any files look suspicious?

Below are the folders in res that has suspicious files. They are images/pictures of TikTok logo. Some of the pictures are blurry and also there is a space/gap in some of the pictures between 'Tik' and 'Tok'. In addition, these images come in various sizes (circle or square border shape) and background (black vs white), which doesn't seem to correlated with real TikTok brand. As a sophisticated company, there shouldn't be any branding or logo issues and this is clearly a mistake of a fraudster.

drawable mipmap-hdpi-v4 mipmap-mdpi-v4 mipmap-xhdpi-v4 mipmap-xxhdpi-v4 mipmap-xxxhdpi-v4

5. Find and list any suspicious HTTP and/or HTTPS URLs used in small files. In which small file(s) did you find suspicious HTTP and/or HTTPS URLs? If you find any suspicious URLs, send them to VirusTotal for analysis, and provide the VirusTotal detection ratio for each URL.

<u>Path</u>	<u>file</u>	URL	<u>Ratio</u>
Smali/com/jadhalno/g	Act.sm	https://www.jio.com/api/jio-recharge-	0/82
oplotu	ali	service/recharge/submitNumber	
Smali/com/jadhalno/g	Act.sm	www.jio.com	1/83
oplotu	ali		
Smali/com/jadhalno/g	Act.sm	https://www.jio.com/JioApp/index.html?roo	0/79
oplotu	ali	t=primeRecharge/	

6. What does this app really do, or what do you think this app really do? Provide a brief synopsis. Show all evidence including lines of code in question, and cite any references.

It looks like a TikTok app by looking at various folder in rec (directory), which means a social engineering technique. Attack strategy starts with a SMS or messaging where a tiny URL is sent to direct such users to another website (weebly.com) owned by an fraudster/attacker. In this case, the website is for the app TikTok to download. The SMS spread is happening via SMS on phone service company name JIO.

https://www.zscaler.com/blogs/security-research/android-apps-targeting-jio-users-india