THE HINDU businessline.

Bihar turns hotspot for cyber frauds: Report

Busy parents, curious kids and job-hunting freshers are the most commonly targeted groups

The firm asks people not to share OTPs or PINs, and always verify links via official apps, and avoid scanning unknown QR codes.

Quick Heal Technologies Limited, a cybersecurity solutions provider, has claimed that Bihar has become a hotspot for online scams. It said that fraudsters were exploiting UPI payments, QR codes at local shops and students that seek admissions or jobs to steal lakhs of rupees.

Quoting researchers at Seqrite Labs, its enterprise security solutions arm, Quick Heal said that the scamsters are using phishing links, fake apps and making 'urgent calls' demanding the victims to disclose OTPs.

"Cybercrime cases have surged as digital life takes over - from tea stall transactions in small towns to online classes in all parts of the state - with low awareness leaving families, elders and youth wide open to tricks like "KYC update now or account blocked," bogus job fees and QR codes that drain wallets instead of crediting them," it said.

"Scammers thrive on Bihar's rapid shift to apps and instant money moves, flooding WhatsApp with lottery wins, loan traps and hacked family profiles begging for urgent cash, while fake college forms, leaked exam papers and work-from-home gigs lure students into paying "registration fees" that vanish," it said.

Recent busts reveal emotional ploys like deepfake relatives in trouble or authority scams from phony bank reps pushing remote access apps, with unreported rural cases letting gangs scale up via social media groups and Telegram channels promising guaranteed seats or high salaries.
Busy parents, curious kids and job-hunting freshers are the most commonly targeted groups.

How to stay safe

The firm asks people not to share OTPs or PINs, and always verify links via official apps, and avoid scanning unknown QR codes.
Families and students can stay safe by using strong unique passwords with multi-factor authentication.