NARCOTICS CONTROL BUREAU
DARKATHON 2022

An initiative of Narcotics Control Bureau
Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India

In collaboration with CyberPeace Foundation

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INTRODUCTION

The rise in the extensive use of technology has also brought with it increase in cybercrimes. Cyberattacks and crimes have permeated almost every facet of society, and are growing in volume, velocity and sophistication with each passing day, defeating the best efforts of law enforcement agencies in India and across the world. The intersection between crimes and technology is more apparent today than ever before. Almost all crimes and potential crimes are facilitated by the internet, gadgets or technology in one form or the other; or at least have an investigative lead rooted in technology.

One of the most concerning facet of this change is the illicit trafficking in drugs and drug-related money laundering through the misuse of information and communication technologies, including Internet, darknet, anonymous and encrypted connections, messengers, electronic and virtual payment systems. According to the 2021 World Drug Report, about 74% of the darknet transactions, or about 90% of darknet sales, were drug related.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the situation and there are tell-a-tale signs about this. For example the number of drug seizures from parcel or courier consignments increased by almost 250% in India after the outbreak of COVID-19 and a good number of them are linked to drug trafficking through darknet markets.

Further, digitalization of society and growing online retail and distribution chains will very likely lead to an upward trend in the misuse of darknet technology to aid drug trafficking.

Drug law enforcement agencies need to be ahead of the curve to counter and negate the challenges of technology advances that drug traffickers take advantage of. The help and aid of the public can go a long way in technically equipping agencies like NCB tackle the menace of drug trafficking. Keeping these in mind, NCB has decided to organize a hackathon that can tap into the high quality technical pool of the country to find effective solutions to unravel the anonymity of darknet markets: The Darkathon.

PROBLEM STATEMENTS

Crawling of darkweb to identify and catalogue active and genuine darknet markets selling drugs (automatically add new markets and drop inactive/taken down markets)

Crawling of darknet markets to identify drug traffickers on dark net based in India and the drugs they offer for sale.

Digital foot printing of active drug traffickers on dark net based in India.

PHASES

1
PHASE 1
IDEATHON AND POC SUBMISSION

- The participants need to register themselves either as a team of maximum three individuals or as a single members.

- During registration the participants are required to give a short description (not more than 200 words) of their proposed solution along with a detailed PowerPoint presentation (not more than 10 slides) against the selected problem statement.

- The participants can also include videos, images and screenshots in the presentation.

2
PHASE 2
SHORTLISTING

- Post the closure of registrations, the evaluation committee will shortlist top 30 entries for the next round.

3
PHASE 3
GRAND FINALE (PRESENTATION ROUND)

The Grand Finale will be hosted as a presentation round. The shortlisted participants need to present their ideas to the jury in the form of presentation, videos and prototype. The presentation round will be of 15 minutes with 10 minutes of presentation and 5 minutes of Q&A.
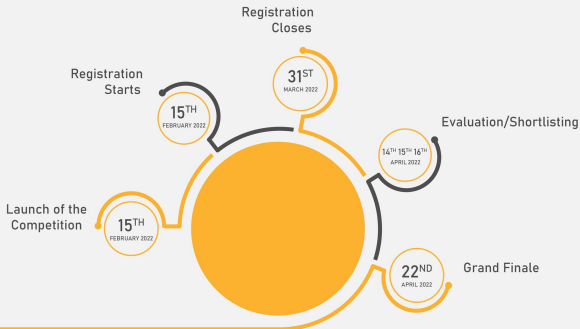
PRIZES

Rs. 2.5 Lakhs	Rs. 2 Lakhs	Rs. 1.5 Lakhs	Rs. 25,000
FIRST PRIZE	SECOND PRIZE	THIRD PRIZE	CONSOLATION PRIZES X 02

THE TIMELINE

Registration Starts
15TH
FEBRUARY 2022

Registration Closes
31ST
MARCH 2022

Evaluation/Shortlisting
14TH 15TH 16TH
APRIL 2022

Launch of the Competition
15TH
FEBRUARY 2022

Grand Finale
22ND
APRIL 2022

ABOUT NARCOTICS CONTROL BUREAU

Narcotics Control Bureau is the nodal Drug Law Enforcement Agency (DLEA) of India dealing with drug related matters which have both national and international ramifications.Apart from performing the roles of a DLEA, NCB is the apex coordinating agency for the state, central and international agencies. NCB functions as an enforcement agency through its regions, zones and subzones. The regions located at Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata have jurisdiction over its zones established at Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chandigarh, Chennai, Delhi, Guwahati, Indore, Jammu, Jodhpur. Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, & Patna and Sub-zones at Ajmer, Amritsar, Bhubaneswar, Dehradun, Goa, Hyderabad, Imphal, Mandsaur, Madurai, Mandi, Raipur, Ranchi and Kochi. The zones and sub-zones collect and analyse data related to seizures of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substance, study trends, modus operandi, collect and disseminate intelligence and work in close cooperation with the central agencies, state police and other law enforcement agencies.

ABOUT CYBERPEACE FOUNDATION

CyberPeace Foundation(CPF) is an award-winning nonpartisan civil society organization, think tank of cybersecurity and policy experts with the vision of pioneering Cyber Peace Initiatives to build collective resiliency against Cybercrimes & global threats of cyber warfare. CPF is involved in Policy Advocacy, Research and Training related to all aspects of Cyber Peace and Cybersecurity. Key areas of CyberPeace Foundation work are in Technology Governance, Policy Review and Advocacy, Capacity and Capability creation and building through partnerships with various government organizations, academic institutions and civil society entities.

For queries and suggestions please send email at :

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