

State health dept website hacked

Our Correspondent

Kolkata: Anti-Indian hackers appeared to have struck again as the official website of the state health department was found hacked on Monday morning. Though it was restored soon after, the health department filed a complaint with Electronics Complex police station.

Users who clicked on the health department's website www.wbhealth.gov.in on Monday morning were in for a rude shock. They found that the hackers had entered the website and changed two PDF files containing government orders.

"The hackers had changed two posts in the order section. In one, they had

filed and the said defaced files removed. "Two notices were affected and our technical personnel changed it immediately. A complaint has also been lodged," said Bhattacharya.

Swapan Purkait, a cyber security consultant and director of Nettek Private Limited, said: "Hackers used SQL injections to log on to an administrator's account. With that, the database server of the website can be accessed and the server is easily manipulated as per the hacker's wishes."

"Website defacement can be stopped with strict adherence to the Information Security Management System (ISMS) Policy. In September 2011 alone, as

many as 759 websites with .in extensions were defaced," he added, quoting Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (Popularly known as CERT-IN) data.

"In May 2006, one of the largest defacements in Web history was performed by the Turkish hacker iSKORPITX who successfully hacked 21,549 websites in one shot. In September 2011, Bangladeshi hacker TIGER-M@IE broke the Turk's record in defacement history by hacking seven lakh websites at one go," said Purkait.

Susanto Banerjee, director of medical education, said: "The website was to be upgraded and someone used the opportunity to hack files. Repairs have been done."



■ Front page of the state health department's website

declared their purported identity and in the other they had written some anti-India slogans. Within hours, the Web support company

repaired the damage," said a health department official.

Meanwhile, special secretary Sukumar Bhattacharya said that a complaint was