

❖ Cybercrime and WBP: Challenges of the Future

Cybercrime

CID West Bengal has a special cybercrime investigation cell under the control of DIG, Operations, CID. Many of the districts are also themselves gearing up to fight this menace by creating cybercrime Cells of their own, such as North 24 Parganas district. The cybercrime cell of this district, for example, is capable of independently investigating cases involving Hacking Accounts of Internet Banking, Cyber-stalking, Theft of Laptop and other computer accessories, Nigerian 419 Scam, etc. However, the forensic/ legal reports regarding this form of crime have to come from the Central rather than the State forensic science laboratories, which greatly slows down investigation.

A Case study: In Bidhan Nagar PS Case No. 07/10 dated 12.01.10 u/s 419/420 IPC and 66/66 (D) Information Technology Act, the bank account at ICICI Bank of a businessman in Salt lake was hacked by the criminals and they phished out Rs. 3,24,990/- by collecting URN and deactivating the SIM (of a Reliance number) of the mobile phone of the businessman. The investigating officers of the North 24 Parganas District Police studied the modus operandi, found out details and solved the crime. Investigation revealed that the bank account was hacked from Nigeria on three different dates. The most intriguing part of this case study is that this modern-day crime was solved by ordinary policeman of very junior rank, since WBP neither has a separate cadre of cyber-officers, nor is permitted to laterally induct specially trained individuals into the organization.