Ministry of Technology, Communication and Innovation

IT Security Unit

IT Security Awareness

IDENTITY THEFT
"Know the Dangers"

What is Identity Theft

Identity Theft happens when an imposter uses someone's personal information such as name, address, identity number, credit card or bank account numbers for fraudulent purposes.

This may also apply to an organisation where a fake profile is created.

Identity theft is considered as one of the most common cybercrimes in the world.

Fraudsters can get one's personal information by:

▶ Using Internet to search about someone or an organization

▶ Stealing someone's wallet

▶ Stealing postal mail

▶ Going through your garbage bin (Dumpster diving)

▶ Making use of malicious software/forged emails

▶ Stealing digital information

⚠️

If you suspect you are a victim of Identity Theft, contact the relevant authorities.
*E.g. Police, Bank,...*

http://mtci.govmu.org

Signs of Identity Theft

◆ Your Statement of Account shows purchases that you are not aware of

◆ You receive credit cards for which you did not apply

◆ You are denied credit for no apparent reason

◆ You get calls or letters from businesses about goods/ services you did not buy

◆ You discover an online profile corresponding to your name/organisation which you cannot access

Consequences of Identity Theft

Once stolen, a cybercriminal may use your personal information to:

◆ Buy things using **your credit card/bank account details**

◆ Commit **fraud** on your name

◆ Create **fake profiles** on your name

◆ **Bully** other people using your fake profile

◆ Put your own/organisation's **reputation at   stake**
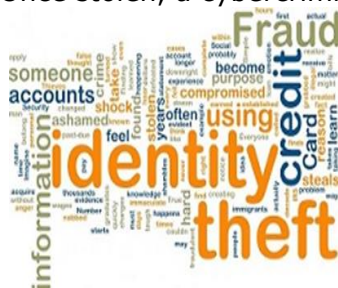
💡 Tips for Preventing Identity Theft

✓ Do not give out your personal information especially via electronic means unless you know who you are dealing with

✓ Do not share your sensitive information (such as Password, PIN number) with anyone

✓ Use strong passwords for all your accounts

✓ Shop on secure and trusted websites ("**https**")

✓ Never store personal information on computers in public places like cybercafés

✓ Install an up to date antivirus /spyware software

✓ Do not use the same password for different accounts

✓ Exercise caution on social networking sites

✓ Practise safe internet surfing

" *Treat Your Personal Information like Cash*"