

## Israeli spyware used to monitor journalists, human right activists in WhatsApp

DAJIWORLD

**NEW DELHI:** WhatsApp social media application, which is owned by Facebook, in a shocking revelation has confirmed that human right activists and journalists in India are monitored remotely by operators using Israeli spyware Pegasus.

A lawsuit in this connection is filed on Tuesday, October 29, by WhatsApp administration accusing the Israeli NSO Group of violating the privacy of around 1,400 WhatsApp users through the spyware Pegasus. WhatsApp says that it has conveyed the information to each one of the users who were under surveillance secretly. However, the firm declined to give the exact number or the identities of the affected users. WhatsApp had alerted at least 24 Dalit activists, lawyers, academics and jour-

nalists in India that their phones are under surveillance for a two-week period in May 2019.

In this method a specially designed 'exploit link' needs to be clicked on by the target person. The Pegasus operator convinces the person in question to do so through enticement. Once done it will penetrate the security features of the phone and will have access to all the passwords, contacts etc.

The phone sends back all the data of the said person. The spyware operator can even turn on the phone's camera and microphone to record all the activities of the person and all those around the phone.

In the latest version of the said spyware, even clicking of the exploit link is not required. A mere video call on WhatsApp is sufficient to make inroads into one's privacy.

Responding to the allegation of WhatsApp, the NSO Group,

accused of using spyware Pegasus for ulterior motives said, "We deny in strongest terms the allegations made on us by WhatsApp. Our technology is not designed to use against individuals."

The NSO group further said that it sells its product only to government agencies. The scribes were unable to contact the home secretary A K Bhalla and A P Sawhney, secretary for electronics and information technology as their efforts to get in touch with them went unanswered.

Citizen Lab, cyber security group based in Canada, in a statement in September 2018 had said that it has found suspected infections of NSO Pegasus with 33 of the 36 Pegasus operators in 45 countries including India. It also confirmed that five operators of Pegasus are dedicated to keep an eye on Asia.

## Silver jubilee celebration at white doves psychiatric Nursing and Destitute Home

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**MANGALORE:** The silver jubilee celebration of 'White Doves Psychiatric Nursing and Destitute Home' was held on Wednesday, October 30.

is not only an institution, but a home where God pours his love and does miracles. By taking care of destitute and mentally ill, the institution is doing great work. It is true that with the work. It is true that with the support of well-wishers and

service. It is not easy to bring destitute and mentally ill people under a specific roof. Many challenges are there.

The institution is also encouraging other people to do social service, and show sympathy on poor and destitute." *Daijiworld*



Eucharistic mass celebrated in occasion of the celebration.

The Eucharistic Mass was celebrated by Dr Peter Paul Saldanha, bishop, Mangaluru diocese, Dr Gerald Isaac Lobo, bishop, Udupi diocese, Dr Aloysius Paul D'Souza, bishop emeritus, along with religious priests.

The religious sisters and supporters of the institution too attended the Mass.

Presiding over the stage programme, which was held after Mass, Bishop Dr Peter Paul Saldanha said, "White Doves

like minded people, Corrie Rasquinha is leading this institution. But we must appreciate Corrine's efforts and sacrifice for it. She is the angel of destitute. The inmates are seeing God through her. She is a mother for all of them. The fruitful 25 years in social service is itself a miracle."

In his speech Bishop Gerald Isaac Lobo said, "Spiritual power is inbuilt in Corrine. She is doing God's mission and spreading His love through her

Fr Denis Moras, chaplain, White Doves, Fr Victor Machado, parish priest, Kulshekar and Vitus Rasquinha were present on the dais.

Corrine Rasquinha welcomed the dignitaries and gathering and thanked the supporters and well-wishers of the institution.

White Doves has rehabilitated over 650 Destitute from the streets both men, women and even children.

## Mangalore to witness heavy rainfall for two days

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**MANGALORE:** The meteorological department has predicted chances of heavy rainfall in the state's coast for two days on account of the drop in atmospheric pressure in Arabian Sea and Lakshadweep. It also expects wind to gain velocity of 40 to 50 km per hour.

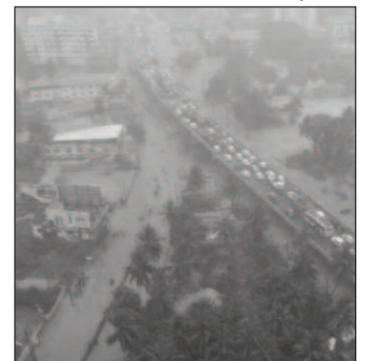
As a matter of precaution, three ships have been kept ready for emergency operations at the port here. The department has issued orange alert in coastal Karnataka that had received good rainfall on Wednesday. Puttur, Subrahmanya and Bantwal too had received good rainfall apart from the city.

The threat of another cyclone here is looming charge. If it hits coastal Karnataka this time, it will be the sixth clone to sweep the area. Three strong cyclones had played havoc in

Karnataka coast between December last and May this year. Two more had visited the coast thereafter,

In the meanwhile, Kasargod district collector, Dr D Sajit Babu, has warned fishermen not to enter the sea at any cost, as the sea has become

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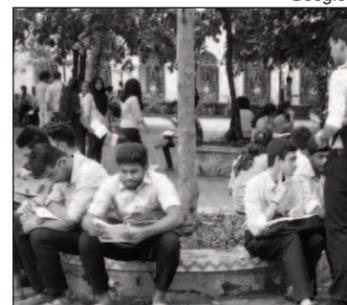
Heavy rainfall in mangalore

tumultuous. Yellow alert has been issued in Kasargod district on October 31 and November 1. He has also asked people not to visit beaches till further instructions and asked those living near the sea.

## End semester exams for PG students from November 7

SHALINI

**CAMPUS:** The end semester examinations for the PG students of SAC will begin on *Google*



Students studying for exams

Thursday, November 7.

Regular classes ended on Thursday, October 31 and the students will leave for their

study leave. The exams for I year PG students will begin on November 8.

Due to Mangalore City Corporation elections to be held on November 12, some exams have been re-adjusted.

The third semester examination scheduled to be held on Monday, November 11 will now be held on Saturday, November 9 and the first semester exams scheduled for Tuesday, November 12 will be held on Monday, November 11.

"All other exams will be held as per the original schedule," said Dr Alwyn D'Sa, Controller of Examinations.

## I year PG students to attend rural immersion

ANUSREE AND ARYA

**CAMPUS:** SAC is organising a rural exposure programme for the I year PG students in the month of November. It will be a five day immersion programme in a rural village.

Students are assigned to visit places like Mundogod and Hangal in Uttar Kannada district, Wayanad Social Service Society in Mananthavady, Tribal Welfare Society in Tamilnadu and Sahajeevanam in Kannur.

"This is a good opportunity for all the students, as they will

get to know the culture and way of life of the local people. It will also help the villagers in making certain changes to their lifestyle," said Shwetha Rasquinha, HOD of MSW department and coordinator of the programme.

Students will be exposed to rural life during the five days and the programme intends to create awareness on health, hygiene, higher education, early marriage and other prevailing social evils.

Students will learn their lifestyle and culture and understanding organic farming.