## Internet banking is not secure: Expert

If you think banking at the tap of your cellphone has made your transaction easier, better think twice. You are also easily vulnerable to the growing racket of 'online thieves', who can render your poorenat one agoirmed bilev

Delivering a talk on 'Cyber crimes' organised under the aegis of Mahajana Alumni Association, at its high school in Mysore on Saturday, N Vijayashankar an alumni of the very institute, popularly known as 'Na Vi' in the world of cyber law, termed the growing trend for mobile banking and internet banking as dangerous. Mincing no words, Vijayashankar said 'internet banking is insecure' disputing the claim of the banks.

He reasoned that, unlike earlier days, every details in the bank are digitised and hence the chances of falling prey to unsavoury things is

Citing various instances from Mysore to Gulf, Bangalore to Pune and also Germany the prominent places where fraudulent withdrawals from ATMs had left the customers poorer by Rs 250 crore. In the case of Mysore, the customer of a MNC bank had found his credit card manipulated, while in the case of Germany, the perpetrators had hacked into the every details of 12 customers before drawing up to Rs 250 crore. It could be made possible by the cloning of 12 ATM cards into



N Vijayashankar

several hundreds. The withdrawals were made in the early hours, much before the

city woke up.

Explaining further, Vijayashankar said 'those in the racket had hacked into the pre-paid cards (debit cards) in use at western nations. Among the customers, two were from Gulf, one (BPO) from Bangalore and another in Pune in India'.

Vijayashankar said, like the afore mentioned customers, there are chances of anyone falling prey to the hackers. It begins with internet banking, where the customers will be deceived in the name of fulfilling legal formalities.

Vijayashankar said, cyber crime is a well organised racket across the globe, where in US, 36,000 fraudulent ATM withdrawals are recorded.

"One may receive mails suggesting that you provide the bank account number and allied details to confirm your identity as there was an attempt to hack into your account. It's the beginning", warned Vijayashankar.

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