



Agent Smith Malware

A study by Check point research (a [cybersecurity services provider](#)) has revealed that “**Agent Smith**”, a new variant of **smartphone malware**, has infected around 25 million Android devices **globally**, including 15 million mobile devices in **India**.

- Agent smith malware exploits known android vulnerabilities and **automatically replaces installed apps** with malicious versions without the user's knowledge or interaction.
- Malware currently uses its **broad access** to the resources of the mobile device to show fraudulent ads for financial gain, and could easily be used for far more intrusive and harmful [cyber attacks](#) such as **banking credential theft** and **eavesdropping**.
- Check Point Research notes that the activity of Agent Smith resembles how other malware like **CopyCat**, **Gooligan**, and **HummingBad** have operated in the past.
 - All three malware campaigns have generated huge revenue through fraudulent ads on virus infected android devices.
- “Agent Smith” was originally downloaded from the widely used **third-party app** store, 9Apps and targeted mostly Hindi, Arabic, Russian and Indonesian-speaking users.
- **Primary victims** of malware are based in India though other Asian countries such as Pakistan and Bangladesh and the United Kingdom, Australia and the United States have also been impacted by the malware.

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