

HACKERS STRIKE IN INDIA AGAIN

Group claims to have taken down two Delhi University websites in a second round of cyberattacks

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THE group of hackers identifying themselves as Dragonforce Malaysia launched a second round of cyberattacks on Indian websites yesterday.

The rogue group, through its Twitter handle, claimed to have taken down two websites of the Delhi University and installed backdoors and Remote Access Trojans on the institution's other sites.

Previously, the group hacked close to 70 government websites and private portals in India on Sunday, including the official websites of the Indian embassy in Israel and the Institute of Science in Nagpur.

The *Times of India*, on Monday, reported that the group defaced more than 50 websites in the state of Maharashtra alone.

The cyberattack campaign, referred to as Op Patuk by the hackers, is believed to be in retaliation to the offensive remarks made by Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) spokesperson, Nupur Sharma, against Prophet Muhammad.

Malaysia, on June 7, joined a host of Muslim countries and organisations, including Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation to protest against the disparaging remarks.

The High Commissioner of India to Malaysia, on June 8, said Nupur's offensive remarks did not represent the views of the Indian government.