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

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

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

http://mtci.govmu.org
Illustration of Identity Theft

"Treat Your Personal Information like Cash"

Hi!

What's up! You look so tense!

I am receiving bills of items that I have never purchased!

Really!

Have you lost your credit card?

Oh no but....!

Last week I did online shopping in a cyber café!

So what?

I rushed out without signing out from my account...

It means that someone has stolen your Identity and is using your account pretending to be You!

What can I do now?

Inform your bank immediately and report it to the Police...