

## Section 66C: Punishment for identity theft

Whoever, fraudulently or dishonestly make use of the electronic signature, password or any other unique identification feature of any other person, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to three years and shall also be liable to fine which may extend to rupees one lakh.

### More Information on Section 66C of Information Technology Act, 2000:

News #1:: [FIR registered against fake profile of state cabinet minister Girish Bapat in Pune](#) (July 2017)

A case was registered at Bund Garden police station in Pune, after a fake profile of the minister was used to share inappropriate pictures on a social networking website. According to the police, a case was registered under Indian Penal code (IPC) Section 500 and [Section 66C](#) of Information Technology Act.

News #2:: [FIR against AIB members for making woman's number viral](#) (July 2017)

On May 17, AIB had posted a video titled "If Apps were people", in which a women character Supriya, wants to sleep but the apps on her phone turn out to be a major distraction. At 4.34 minutes of the video, one of the characters in the video spells out the mobile number of another character Rohan. Incidentally, the phone number turned out to be of one Rohina Chhabra, a resident of Karnivihar area of Jaipur in Rajasthan. But for Rohina, its has turned into a nightmare as getting continuous calls on her number since then.

News #3:: [Rajathan student arrested for 'hacking' WhatsApp accounts](#) (July 2017)

On June 28 2017, the cyber offense wing of Nashik Police had filed a case JOHN DOE under section 66C of Information Technology Act after receiving a complaints of WhatsApp Hacking from various complainants in Nashik. The accused Diptesh Salecha has now been arrested for hacking into 31 Whatsapp Accounts.

News #4:: [Paramilitary man arrested for hacking Kareena Kapoor's IT account to get her mobile number](#) (Jan 2017)

The cyber police on Monday arrested a 26-year-old Central armed police employee who is a die hard fan of actress Kareena Kapoor for allegedly hacking her income tax account in September last year. The official who hails from a North Indian state has told the cyber police that he hacked her Income Tax account so that he could get access to her mobile number using which he could talk to her. The accused has been booked under impersonation, identity theft and relevant sections of the Information Technology Act.

News #5:: [Rs 71,000 lost in identity theft by senior citizen](#) (May 2017)

Though banks have been regularly providing various alerts through Email and SMS as they never ask any sensitive/confidential information over the telephone or through email, etc. But a senior citizen from Mumbai still got misled, when some female misrepresented as a Bank Executive and asked for various details as to Debit Card. The account got debited of Rs 71,000 immediately.

News #6:: Mumbai man cheats English Nationals for over Rs 18 lakhs through Credit Card obtained fraudulently (June 2017)

A senior customer service executive Imran Jumman Chauhan, a resident of Vikhroli, fraudulently obtained credit card details of 53 UK nationals and misused the information to do online shopping worth Rs 18.33 lakh. He took advantage of his position in a private company, where he was working to provide customer services to cardholders in UK. He was arrested under sections 420 (cheating) and 408 (criminal breach of trust by clerk or servant) of IPC and section 66C (identity theft) of [Information Technology Act, 2000](#), before being granted bail !