



YOUNGACHIEVER

Securing defence data

BTech students developed a security mechanism based on highly secure encryption algorithms, independent of operating system

Charu.Narula@timesgroup.com

Six BTech third-year students from a university won the top award at Smart India Hackathon 2018 for developing a security system for the Ministry of Defence. The solution enables easy transfer of data from one network to another through trusted sources. The team claims that they will soon meet the PMO to discuss the security system implementation.

The team from Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham consisting of ethical hacking enthusiasts aims to provide secured external USB devices and preventing unauthorized access to the data copied on it. "Out of the six team members, four of

us belonged to information security and retrieval background, so the team started to develop the security system: there exists our software which is installed on the systems of the organisation.

The system verifies a newly inserted pen drive to see if it has been whitelisted (a list of specified and trustworthy pen drives). If it is decrypted without much difficulty, the pen drive can be used as any normal device. If the pen drive is not whitelisted, then it isn't mounted on the system," explained team member Aasha AR.

In order to authorise a system, a software has to be installed while the security system also provides a backup of the files locally, which is reliable in case of theft or tampering of the device. The team claims the system provides 100% security of the data, and is independent of the Operating System it is running on.

Striking difference between the existing security system and the one developed by the team, Sivaramakrishnan S, another team member stated that the previously existing systems are time bound and rely on heavy cloud storage. "Our system works without the connectivity to any external network and ensures secured data at any given point of time. Our strong en-

ryption algorithms are one of the key features. Whitelisting of USB storage

devices that ensure security at any given point of time and guarantee mini-

mal loss of data in case of damage is the product in simple terms."