

# INNOVATION SNAPSHOTS

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## **BRAZIL'S BIG DATA CEREBRUM 2.0**

Partnership with Ceará Federal University, is a web indexer capable of searching several public security databases, as well as those of some private agencies. It presents an aggregate analysis through different visualizations, such as urban maps and panels, which allow the spatial verification of records related to the searched object, for instance, names of offenders and vehicles used in crimes.

After the integration of several databases and knowledge bases relevant to public security, the need arose for a technological tool capable of searching and analysing large volumes of data produced and stored by SSPDS and other agencies in Brazil. This technological tool is used by the Military Police, Civil Police, Military Fire Brigade, Forensic Institute, and Intelligence Agency.



Similar to Google's search platform, Cerebrum 2.0 is able to return results based on what was typed in the search field, without the need to apply any kind of filter.

Read the full article at the <u>INTERPOL GKH</u>

## USING BLOCKCHAIN TO SECURELY FILE POLICE COMPLAINTS IN INDIA

n the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, the Firozabad Police department has launched a nation-first blockchain portal for filing complaints. Senior Superintendent Ashish Tiwari of the Firozabad Police announced the FIR (First Information Report) decentralized application, explaining that complaints made using the platform cannot be tampered with or erased by either the police department or the complainant. Adopting blockchain technology in this way can help to ensure transparency and equitable justice within law enforcement while reducing the potential for inter-department corruption.



Individuals needing to file a complaint with the police will no longer need to go to a police station to submit a handwritten complaint. Instead, they can visit the platform to file a complaint using their phone, with detailed instructions provided in English and Hindi. Once the complaint is filed, the individual will receive a unique token number via text message or email, which can then be used to track the status of the complaint, including who the complaint was assigned to, which area in charge has received it and which police officer is responsible for it.

All police stations have also been given QR codes attached to their desks from which individuals filing complaints in person can also do so using the blockchain platform.

The platform: https://www.policecomplaintonblockchain.in/

#### TERRORIST GROUPS TRIALLING NFTS & BLOCKCHAIN FOR FUNDRAISING

his past August, intelligence experts sounded the alarm over the minting (converting digital data into digital assets recorded on the blockchain) of the first non-fungible token (NFT) by a terrorist sympathizer. The digital token published on the online NFT marketplace OpenSea briefly before its takedown is an image bearing the Islamic State's emblem with text praising the Afghanistan-based militants for their attack against a Taliban position. Intelligence reports indicate that the creator of this digital token had also created two other NFTs; one depicting an Islamic State fighter teaching students how to make explosives, and the other condemning the smoking of cigarettes.



This NFT remains fixed in its respective blockchain despite being taken down from the marketplace. Due to blockchain technology's immutable and inalterable properties, there isn't anything anyone can do to take down this NFT. Terrorist groups are experimenting with these new mediums of communication and fundraising, essentially bypassing and evading censorship and sanctions to fund their activities and make their content indestructible.

Although NFTs have not become the primary means of financing terrorism, this isn't the first case reported where terrorist and organized crime groups have employed the use of cryptocurrencies and virtual assets to gather immediate funding for their activities.

INTERPOL's Innovation Centre is set to publish a Technology Assessment Paper for member countries on the potential criminal uses of NFTs and law enforcement's

role in this space.

Sources: https://cointelegraph.com/news/terror-groups-may-turn-to-nfts-to-raise-funds-and-spread-messages-wsj

https://www.wsj.com/articles/islamic-state-turns-to-nfts-to-spread-terror-message-11662292800

# **DID YOU KNOW?**

The Winnipeg Police Service in Canada developed a Virtual Police Response pilot project that allows police officers to virtually analyze certain crime scenes using the victim's video camera on a smart device. After the call, the police officer will decide whether further investigative or forensic resources are required. The Virtual Police Response Unit allows a direct engagement with the victims, as well as a reduction in response times.

### WEARABLE TECH MEASURES POLICE OFFICER WELFARE IN AN INNOVATIVE PROJECT

UK police department in the northwest region of Merseyside has launched a six-month pilot project focusing on police welfare. Through the use of a wristband, the programme is set to monitor the stress level, sleep patterns, and strain risks of police officers in order to safeguard their well-being and avoid burnout episodes. This innovative project is led by Dr. Carol Cox, Head of Policing at Liverpool John Moores University, and is further set to explore the potential usage of wearable technologies to improve law enforcement work. As work-related stress has been highly reported among police officers and can potentially have extremely detrimental results for both



their professional and personal lives, the Merseyside Police project will be able to gather new relevant data that could foster further research.

The pilot program will be implemented through the new group of recruits of the Merseyside Police Department and aims to sensitize the police officers themselves to see the data about their own welfare and take consequent measures to improve it.

Source: https://www.merseysidepcc.info/news-and-events/news/

https://www.pfoa.co.uk/blog/merseyside-police-monitor-officers-stress

#### SCAMSHIELD: THE APP PROTECTING SINGAPOREANS FROM SCAMS

he Singapore Police Force (SPF), along with Singapore's National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC), launched an Android version of their app ScamShield to protect and prepare Singaporeans against a wide and growing range of scam variants.

The app can identify scam messages and filter out and block calls from scammers listed in a database managed by the SPF and NCPC. Once a scam message is detected on the app it is sent to the SPF and NCPC, who regularly collect and update the app and its users to better protect individuals against newly identified scams. ScamShield can also check incoming calls against the database maintained by the SPF to see if it has been previously used for illegal purposes before blocking it automatically.



Originally launched for iOS devices in November 2020, the app has since successfully reduced the opportunity for scammers to contact potential victims by blocking more than 24,500 phone numbers since its launch. Additionally, over 5.1 million SMS messages have been reported on the app, which has already been downloaded by more than 300,500 users with iOS devices. Now Android users in Singapore can also benefit from the app, which also provides users with alerts on common scam tactics such as phishing and investment scams and information on what to do after receiving a scam message and how to report it using the in-app reporting function. Faced with an increase in scam variants in the country, the SPF believes the best defence against scams is a "discerning and well-informed public". For this purpose, interactive quizzes are also available on the app to educate users on trending scams such as job scams which have been the leading scam in Singapore with over SGD\$58 million lost since the beginning of 2022.

More information about the app: https://www.scamshield.org.sg/

# **DID YOU KNOW?**

The Ajman Police in Dubai is now offering their services in the Metaverse. The public is now able to communicate with the Ajman Police Department remotely through the use of their avatars in the Metaverse. The application already supports seven different languages: Arabic, English, Russian, German, Chinese, French, and Spanish.

#### **INNOVATION CENTRE EVENTS**

7TH DIGITAL FORENSICS EXPERT GROUP MEETING

08/11-10/11 INDIA

MULTIMEDIA FORENSICS

17/11 VIRTUAL TRAINING

NEW TECH. FORUM: LAW ENFORCEMENT IN WEB 3.0

15/11 - 17/11 SINGAPORE

STRATALKS ANNUAL EXPERT MEETING

24/11 - 25/11 SINGAPORE

For more information, please contact the INTERPOL Innovation Centre

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