

Malaysia probes leak of 46 mn phone users' data

November 1 2017



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Malaysia is investigating an attempt to sell details of more than 46 million mobile phone subscribers that were leaked online in a massive data breach, a minister said Wednesday.

The breach was originally reported by local technology website Lowyat.net after unidentified individuals offered the [phone data](#), from several telecoms companies, and other [personal information](#) for sale on a public forum on the site.

Communications Minister Salleh Said Keruak said police and the country's internet regulator were looking into the case.

"We have identified several potential sources of the leak and we should be able to complete the probe soon," he told reporters in parliament.

The Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission, the [internet regulator](#), has met telecoms companies to discuss the issue.

Lowyat.net removed the leaked data after getting a tip-off in mid-October. The data was from 46.2 million phone subscribers and included addresses and identity card numbers.

"We are also aware that the same data is being peddled across a number of other online channels," Lowyat.net wrote in a post when it originally reported the breach.

Malaysia has a population of about 32 million.

But many people have several phone numbers and The Star newspaper reported that the leaked list was believed to include inactive numbers and temporary ones used by foreigners.

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Citation: Malaysia probes leak of 46 mn phone users' data (2017, November 1) retrieved 10 June 2023 from <https://phys.org/news/2017-11-malaysia-probes-leak-mn-users.html>

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