

Child-abuse website shut down

A website full of young girls' obscene photos has recently been shut down by the police bureau of Beijing.



Illicit picture of young girls posted at the Eight Wolves Forum. [Photo: wechat account of the Youth League]

The website, called Eight Wolves Forum, enticed users to join its account of an online group chat room registered on Tencent's QQ platform, and then sent them illicit pictures.

After receiving several reports, the Youth League, an organization among young people in China, used its WeChat (China's equivalent of Twitter) account – Tuan Tuan, to go undercover. Disguised as a new user asking for access to the website, they were overwhelmed by the multiple erotic photos of young girls.

The perpetrator surnamed Du, a 20-year technical school student from a divorced family in Nanchong, Sichuan Province, projected that the pornographic business would make him a fortune.

"I wanted a new computer, but every time I asked my parents to finance me they would berate me. Now I have a step father who makes my situation even worse," Du told Tuan through the online chat room.

However, Du was not alone in sending photos online. What was worse, according to the League, many of the photos were posted by pedophiles.

"The emergence of such websites will greatly threaten the safety of children, by motivating pedophiles," said Prof. Long Di (PhD), from the Institute of Psychology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS).

In 1984, US professor David Finkelhor, researched crimes against children and coined a theory of Four Preconditions. Namely, the motivation to sexually abuse a child, overcoming internal inhibitors, overcoming external inhibitors and overcoming child resistance, before one resolves to molest a child.

“The motivation of pedophiles can be constrained according to the first two conditions. However, the photos and content in such websites tempts and galvanizes their desire and leads them to infringe upon the rights of children, by using the young bodies to satisfy their sexual or psychological desires,” Long said.

“It can be exemplified as a person who causes no damage, even though, he desires food when he is starving. But once he starts to loot groceries to feed himself, he definitely violates laws and brings agonies and hurts to others,” she explained.

[Work begins on PPP high-speed railway in Zhejiang](#)

Construction of a new high-speed rail link between east China’s cities of Hangzhou and Wenzhou began on Thursday and is expected to be complete by 2021.

The Hangzhou-Wenzhou line stretches about 331 km and is China’s first public-private partnership PPP funded high-speed railway project by the National Development and Reform Commission, with the private sector having holding status.

Upon completion, travel time between two cities will be more than halved from 2.5 hours to about one hour. Passengers can also transfer to Beijing and south China’s Guangdong Province via the the new line.

The Wenzhou-Hangzhou high-speed railway is part of a national initiative to establish a modern, integrated transportation system laid out in the country’s 13th five-year plan (2016-2020).

China has the world’s largest high-speed rail network, stretching more than 22,000 km, while its total rail network is over 124,000 km.

By 2020, the length of high-speed railways in operation is expected to be around 30,000 km, connecting more than 80 percent big cities.

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[News story: £220 million to help motorists beat congestion](#)

Traffic hotspots across England have been identified by Transport Secretary Chris Grayling to receive millions of pounds for junction upgrades, roundabout improvements and better traffic signalling.

The schemes, worth about £110 million, will cut congestion and journey times for motorists and improve safety. They will be completed by spring 2020.

This includes 2 larger projects, worth £30 million, which will create an unbroken stretch of dual carriageway on the A69 between Hexham and Newcastle. A further £14 million will go towards creating a new junction on the M11 to provide another route into Harlow, cutting journey times as well as unlocking housing developments.

A further £110 million will be invested on improving more roads, with details

revealed at a later date.

Transport Secretary Chris Grayling said:

We are making the most extensive improvements to roads in the last 40 years, investing a record £23 billion to keep our country moving and make journeys faster, better and more reliable for everyone.

We are also spending a further £1.3 billion over the course of this parliament to relieve congestion and provide important upgrades to ensure our roads are fit for the future.

These schemes announced today will provide quick relief to millions of drivers and save them from getting stuck in traffic.

Nick Harris, Highways England Operations Director, said:

This continued investment in our motorways and major roads is bringing real benefits to communities up and down the country, and we will continue working with our partners to improve journeys for everyone who uses our roads.

The funding is broken down as follows:

£90 million for the North

In the North West, Highways England has identified 4 schemes, worth £6.4 million, to tackle congestion – 2 to improve the A595/A66 junctions at Great Clifton and the Fitz Roundabout, as well as the A585 at Norcross and junction 3 of the M55. These projects will all start by winter 2018 and be completed by spring 2019. A further £21 million has been set aside to improve roads in the North West.

North West	Estimated cost £millions
A595 / A66 Fitz Roundabout (Low Rd)	1
A595 / A66 Great Clifton Widening	1.6
A585 Norcross Capacity Improvement	3
M55 Junction 3 Signals	0.8
Future small schemes	21
North West total	27.4

Yorkshire and the North East will benefit from the £30 million A69 upgrades as well as £14.8 million invested in enhancing 7 congested junctions as well as a further £18.2 million on other areas to be identified shortly. Improving

the A63 Garrison Road in Hull will save more than half a million hours of delays in the first year alone.

Yorkshire and North East	Estimated cost £millions
A69/A68 Junction Improvements near Corbridge	15
A69/A6079 Junction Improvements near Hexham	15
A63 Garrison Road Signals and Road Improvement	6.35
M18 Junction 3 Improvements	0.25
M62 Junction 27 Widening	2.65
M62 Junction 28 Widening	2.25
A66/B6280 Morton Palms Widening	0.5
A19/ A179 Sheraton Signals	0.8
M1 Junction 36 Slip Road Improvement	2
Future small schemes	18.2
Yorkshire and North East total	63

£23 million for the Midlands

Four schemes, worth £9.9 million, will cut congestion in the Midlands, reducing queues at Old Stratford and Ogley Hay on the A5, junction 3 of the M42 and junction 27 on the M1. Details of schemes benefitting from an additional £14 million will be announced in due course.

Midlands	Estimated cost £millions
A5 Old Stratford Widening	3.3
M1 Junction 27 Capacity Improvements	0.9
A5/A5195 Ogley Hay Traffic Signals	1.5
M42 Junction 3 Improvement	4.2
Future small schemes	14
Midlands total	23.9

£53 million for the South East

The South East will benefit from £11.6 million on four projects and £41.6 million for future schemes.

South East	Estimated cost £millions
M27 Junction 7 Improvements	2.5
A3 Northbound Off Slip at University Interchange (Guildford)	1.6
A3 Stoke Interchange Southbound Off Slip Improvements (Guildford)	2.5
A20 Port of Dover Technology Improvements	5
Future small schemes	41.6
South East total	53.2

£32 million for the South West

M5 in the South West will see almost £20 million of improvements to ensure better journeys for motorists. About £12 million will be allocated shortly.

South West	Estimated cost £millions
M5 Junction 19 Improvements	2.8
M5 Junction 17 – 18 Driver Information and Queue Protection Scheme	4.3
M5 Junction 24 – 25 Driver Information and Queue Protection Scheme	7.1
M5 Junction 23 – 24 Driver Information and Queue Protection Scheme	5.5
Future small schemes	12.4
South West total	32.1

£16 million for the East

On top of the £14 million investment in the M11 junction 7a scheme at Harlow, the East will benefit from £2.8 million of investment to ease congestion.

East	Estimated cost £millions
M11 Junction 7a, Harlow, Essex	14
A11 Fiveways Roundabout, Barton Mills Signalisation	0.4
Future small schemes	2.4
East total	16.8

Map of schemes

PDF, 2.49MB, 2 pages

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Press release: Huge response to join cyber security apprenticeship scheme

- Successful recruits will be placed in jobs in energy, water and transport companies
- Programme is led by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and part of the Government's National Cyber Security Programme

Almost 1,250 people applied for 23 apprentice roles as part of a bold new pilot scheme to help protect the nation's critical national infrastructure from cyber threats and attacks.

The apprenticeships in Critical National Infrastructure (CNI) scheme aims to help develop tomorrow's online security professionals and tackle the risk of a future skills shortage.

The successful recruits will be employed in energy, water and transport companies which cyber criminals could target. Thirteen firms including Northern Powergrid and Network Rail are taking part in the initiative.

The scheme will see the apprentices receive around 60 days of specialist classroom and lab training alongside their on-the-job education where there will work with existing cyber security professionals. This will help them develop skills to become cyber security professionals in under two years.

Minister of State for Digital and Culture Matt Hancock said:

As part of National Apprenticeship Week, our cyber security apprenticeships in Critical National Infrastructure scheme will take those with the right aptitude and thirst for new technology and place them in essential industries with tough on-the-job training.

This is an important part of our National Cyber Security Programme and recent Digital Strategy to prepare Britain for the challenges it faces now and in the future.

It's fantastic to see such a huge response to this scheme and I'm sure all the apprentices will help make these workplaces more productive, bring in fresh ideas and contribute from day one.

Training will include a three-day capture the flag cyber security workshop as well as topics including ethical hacking, network defence, malware analysis, cryptography, encryption and cyber security operations. This will be delivered by an external provider at sites across the country.

The apprentices will complete the new Cyber Security Technologist higher apprenticeship standard, which has been developed by Government working with

industry. The scheme is for those aged 16 and over with a natural flair for problem solving and a passion for technology.

The programme is led by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and part of the Government's National Cyber Security Programme.

Cyber security is a fast-paced and fascinating industry with strong job prospects. Recent figures from the Tech Partnership show there are already 58,000 cyber security specialists in a growing sector worth £22bn a year to the economy.

The apprenticeships in Critical National Infrastructure scheme is one of a number of cyber skills initiatives to develop a strong supply of cyber security professionals alongside the Government's Cyber Schools Programme and Cyber Retraining Academy. The pilot will contribute to the goal of delivering up to 1,000 cyber apprenticeships by 2021.

The figures are released as part of Government's celebration of National Apprenticeship Week. The week will also see a group of new recruits for the Government's own Cyber Security Apprenticeship scheme tour the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) tomorrow (March 10) to meet some of the people at the forefront of the fight against cyber attacks.

Protecting the UK's Critical National Infrastructure (CNI) from hostile cyber activity by strengthening the nation's cyber security and resilience is a major operational priority for the Government.

The NCSC was opened by Her Majesty the Queen in February and plays a pivotal part of the Government's National Cyber Security Strategy that has committed £1.9 billion of investment into transforming the nation's capabilities in cyber defence, deterrence and development.

Notes to editors

Media enquiries and interview requests – please contact the DCMS News and Communications team on 020 7211 2210.

DCMS is initially working with employers in the energy, water and transport sectors to support the first round of cyber apprentices for critical national infrastructure sectors.

DCMS is keen to hear from employers in the following sectors to support future rounds of cyber apprentices in energy, civil nuclear, water, transport, telecoms, finance and broadcast media.

To apply to join the Government's own Cyber Security Apprenticeship scheme visit
<https://civilservicelearning.civilservice.gov.uk/cyber-security-technologist>.

Further recruitment rounds in the Apprenticeships in Critical National Infrastructure Sectors scheme will be advertised here
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/cyber-security-cni-apprenticeships>.