



BMS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY & MANAGEMENT
An Autonomous Institute Under VTU, Accredited by NBA and NAAC
Yelahanka, Bengaluru-560119.

Name of the Club: Access Denied

Date of Formation: August, 2022

Coordinators: Dr. Swetha M S

Objective:

At Access Denied, we believe that cybersecurity is best learned through curiosity, collaboration, and hands-on experience. Our objective is to build a student community that actively explores the workings of digital systems, understands how vulnerabilities arise, and learns how to defend against them — ethically and effectively.

We strive to create an inclusive and practical learning environment where students of all skill levels can develop technical expertise, critical thinking, and a problem-solving mindset. By working together, sharing knowledge, and challenging ourselves, we aim to prepare for real-world cybersecurity roles while fostering a culture of responsibility, learning, and innovation.

Roles and Responsibilities:

Faculty Advisor	Dr. Swetha M S
President	Prince Kumar
Vice President	Purvi V
Secretary	Aniruddh M Adhvaryu
R&D Head	Aniket Sharma
Treasurer	Roshni N

Cybernexions (Tech Team)	<p>Team Heads: Leeladithya S & Siri Uluvagilu</p> <p>Associates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vinay B U • Advaith Badam • Tejashwini S Uranakar • Akshat Jaiswal • Dhimahi Rai • Abhishek Chougala • Meghana K • Shreyas R • Sai Varshith
Design & Media Team	<p>Team Head: Purvi V</p> <p>Associates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nidhi Chetan • P Vedananda • Raashi A • Susan Tiji Varghese
Events & Operations Team	<p>Team Head: Sneha Gupta</p> <p>Associates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arjun • Risubh Pandey • Pranab Bharadwaj • Faiz Mohammad Saleem
Marketing Team	<p>Team Head: Tanvi Hiremath</p> <p>Associates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minal Arya • Piyush Salunke • Tanish V • Vishnu Kashyap D

One Year Activities Conducted:

Digital Forensics Workshop: Trail of Data

Speaker: Mr. Prinshu Shukla

On 19th December, Access Denied Cybersecurity Club hosted Trail of Data, an engaging and highly informative digital forensics workshop led by Prinshu Shukla, Infosec Engineer at PhonePe. With over 470 participants in attendance, the session offered an in-depth look into the investigative side of cybersecurity. Prinshu walked attendees through real-world forensic workflows, demonstrating how professionals identify, preserve, and analyze digital evidence during incident response. The workshop covered essential tools such as disk imaging, log analysis, and memory forensics, along with practical techniques used to trace malicious activity across compromised systems. Participants gained insights into the challenges faced during live investigations, including handling volatile data and maintaining evidence integrity. Emphasizing hands-on learning and critical thinking, the session also highlighted the mindset and discipline required to work in the field of forensics. Trail of Data left participants with a solid foundational understanding of digital forensics and sparked interest among many to explore the field further.



Webinar: HackTheBox Walkthrough I

Speaker: Krish Gupta

Access Denied hosted a hands-on cybersecurity workshop titled Hack The Box Walkthrough on 29th March 2025, featuring Krish Gupta, Associate Consultant at Oracle and former Access Denied Tech Team member. Designed for both beginners and enthusiasts, the event offered a structured introduction to ethical hacking and penetration testing using a real HTB machine.

Participants explored Linux commands, network scanning with Nmap, web exploitation using Burp Suite, Git essentials, and privilege escalation techniques. The session was centered around a guided walkthrough of the HTB machine “Strutted,” allowing students to apply their knowledge in real time. With a focus on practical learning, attendees gained a clear understanding of how vulnerabilities are discovered, exploited, and reported ethically.

The event concluded with a live demo, collaborative Q&A, and valuable resources for further learning, making it a foundational experience for anyone stepping into the world of cybersecurity.



Speaker: Krish Gupta

Alumni Talk

Speaker: Mr. Sudhanva Rao

On 10th April, the Department of Information Science and Engineering, in collaboration with Access Denied, hosted an inspiring alumni interaction session featuring Mr. Sudhanva Rao, Associate Software Engineer at Mobileum and a proud alumnus of the department. Held in the ISE Seminar Hall, the session aimed to bridge the gap between academic learning and the realities of the tech industry.

Mr. Rao shared his transition from student life to the corporate world, touching upon the challenges of placements, the value of internships, and strategies for adapting to the fast-paced software industry. He emphasized continuous self-learning, industry-relevant skills like

AI, cloud computing, and cybersecurity, and the importance of professional networking. His relatable experiences and practical advice resonated strongly with the audience, making the session both informative and motivating.

The event concluded with a lively Q&A, where students sought guidance on career planning, skill-building, and navigating industry expectations. Mr. Rao's openness, encouragement, and insightful responses made this session a valuable learning experience for all attendees.

Expert Talk: Cyber Security – Opportunities and Challenges

Speaker: Dr. Udaya Shankar Puranik

On 28th April 2025, Access Denied, in collaboration with the Department of Computer Science and Engineering and Information Science and Engineering, hosted an expert talk titled "Cyber Security: Opportunities and Challenges" by Dr. Udaya Shankar Puranik, Director of AI and Cybersecurity at Theta Dynamics. Held as part of the Professor of the Professor of Practice Lecture Series, the session brought together over 6th semester students for a deep dive into the evolving landscape of cybersecurity.

With over 37 years of global experience, Dr. Puranik delivered a dynamic and structured lecture covering a wide spectrum of topics including the triad of cybersecurity (Prevention, Investigation, Intelligence), AI in threat detection, User and Entity Behavior Analytics (UEBA), and Zero Trust Architecture. The talk also provided a career roadmap, introducing students to Red, Blue, and Purple Team roles, as well as the skills and tools essential for launching a career in cybersecurity.

The event concluded with a highly engaging Q&A session, where students explored themes like affordable cybersecurity for small businesses, ethical AI boundaries, and the future of cyber defense. The session not only expanded technical knowledge but also encouraged students to pursue cybersecurity with a mindset rooted in ethics, adaptability, and innovation.





Webinar: HackTheBox Walkthrough II

Speakers: Leeladithya Simma & Siri Uluvagilu

On 3rd May 2025, Access Denied hosted an exclusive hands-on session titled HackTheBox: Insomnia Challenge Walkthrough, led by student cybersecurity enthusiasts Leeladithya Simma and Siri Uluvagilu, co-leads of the club's technical wing, Cybernaxions. The session was crafted for beginners and aimed to provide a practical introduction to ethical hacking through a real-world Capture The Flag (CTF) challenge on the HackTheBox platform.

The event opened with an overview of cybersecurity fundamentals, ethical hacking frameworks, and penetration testing methodologies. Participants were introduced to tools like Nmap, Wireshark, Burp Suite, Gobuster, and Hydra, followed by a step-by-step walkthrough of the Insomnia lab. The speakers explained each phase in real-time—from reconnaissance to privilege escalation—encouraging audience interaction and critical thinking throughout the session.

More than just a walkthrough, the session served as a confidence booster for students exploring cybersecurity for the first time. By breaking down complex techniques into accessible steps, Leeladithya and Siri inspired attendees to approach platforms like HackTheBox with curiosity and persistence, reinforcing the club's mission to promote hands-on, peer-driven cybersecurity learning.