

State of emergency declared in Japan following wave of cyber attacks

In the first nine months of the year, the country reported 600 cyberattacks - more than in the entire 2025; hackers disabled government websites, stole personal information from about a million customers and disrupted the operations of hundreds of companies and public bodies, including the police and railway companies.

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Japan is in a "state of emergency" in the cyber realm, Masaaki Taira, head of the ruling party's cybersecurity committee, declared over the weekend. The state of emergency was declared in the backdrop of a wave of attacks the country has experienced in recent months, which do not target any industry, according to a report in the New York Times.

According to a study by cybersecurity firm TrendAI, 600 cyberattacks were reported in Japan in the first nine months of this year, more than all incidents reported in 2025. Hackers disrupted servers, took down government websites, and gained access to large amounts of consumers' personal information.

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For example, in the past two weeks, a public university in Japan was forced to cancel classes after its servers were hacked, a ride-sharing service reported the theft of personal information from about a million customers, and a spyware attack on a cloud service operator owned by SoftBank affected about 500 companies, public bodies, and local authorities, including the police and train companies.

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