PTA Security Advisory-No:Ext 172-5-42   19, March 2019

1.   **Overview:** Microsoft has announced to end the support for Internet explorer web browser w.e.f 14th January 2020 due to un-patched vulnerabilities. Same has been confirmed by security analysts, being prone to spyware, adware, and computer viruses across the internet.

2.   **Recommendations:** In order to safeguard against the prevailing threat of internet Explorer, following is recommended:

- Discontinue usage of Internet Explorer by the end of 2019 as Microsoft is relinquishing support for said product.
- Browsers like Google Chrome, Firefox Mozilla etc may be used. However, following guidelines are recommended for safe internet surfing:
    - Ensure hardening and privacy setting of the browser and carefully install plug-in to avoid data leakage.
    - Ensure that "Real-time Protection" feature is always enabled on antivirus.
- Designate a PoC (if not nominated yet) for network users for seeking assistance and reporting security issues.
- In case of any incident, please report to this office.