



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
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BharOS

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Why is in news? IIT Madras incubated Firm develops BharOS - India's Indigenous Mobile Operating System

Indian Institute of Technology **Madras (IIT Madras)** - **incubated firm** has developed an **Indigenous Mobile Operating System** that can benefit India's 100 crore mobile phone users.

It is called '**BharOS**,' this software can be installed on commercial off-the-shelf handsets. It provides a secure environment for users and is a significant contribution towards 'Atmanirbhar Bharat.'

The BharOS was **developed by JandK Operations Private Limited (JandKops)**, which has been incubated by IIT Madras Pravartak Technologies Foundation, a **Section 8 (Not for Profit) Company** established by IIT Madras.

The Foundation is funded by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, under its **National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NMICPS)**. It aspires to put India on par with those few countries that currently possess such capabilities.

BharOS **provides access to trusted apps** from organisation-specific **Private App Store Services (PASS)**. A PASS **provides access to a curated list of apps** that have been thoroughly vetted and have met certain security and privacy standards of organisations. This means users can be confident that the apps they are installing are safe to use and have been checked for any potential security vulnerabilities or privacy concerns.

BharOS comes with **No Default Apps (NDA)**. This means that users are **not forced to use apps that they may not be familiar with or that they may not trust**. Additionally, this approach allows users to have more control over the permissions that apps have on their device, as they can choose to only allow apps that they trust to access certain features or data on their device.

BharOS offers '**Native Over The Air (NOTA) updates**' that can help to keep the devices secure. NOTA updates are **automatically downloaded and installed on the device**, without the need for the user to manually initiate the process. This ensures that the device is always running the latest version of the operating system, which includes the latest security patches and bug fixes. With NDA, PASS, and NOTA, BharOS ensures that Indian mobile phones are trustworthy."

BharOS Services are currently being provided to organisations that have stringent privacy and security requirements whose users handle sensitive information that requires confidential communications on restricted apps on mobiles. Such users require access to private cloud services through private 5G networks.

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