

# BE CYBER SAFE

Weekly digest of cyber scams to help you stay ahead



## Two Bengaluru residents lose ₹95 lakh to cyber fraudsters

Two individuals have reported to the local police that they have lost approximately INR 95 lakh to cybercriminals after falling for feigned videos purporting to show two prominent businessmen. In both the cases, the complainants didn't check the authenticity of the alleged videos. They ended up clicking on some suspicious links which led them to fraudulent websites created by cyber-fraudsters to cheat people and make money on promises exponential financial promises.

## Cyber Crime Police of South Zone arrested six suspects for allegedly cheating a private firm to the tune of ₹10 lakhs

The Cyber Crime Police of South Zone arrested six suspects for allegedly cheating a private firm of ₹10 lakh under the pretext of facilitating conversion of Indian currency into cryptocurrency. According to the police, a member of the same firm lodged a complaint with the police stating that his company used to convert Indian currency into USDT which is Stablecoin – a cryptocurrency designed to provide a stable price point at all times and then sent to a branch in Dubai. One of the suspects approached the company and assured them that they would facilitate the conversion at cheaper rates. After receiving ₹10 lakh, they failed to get the conversion and cheated them. Police seized ₹10.92 lakh, a SUV car, eight mobile phones, SIM cards, ATM cards and bank passbooks from them.

## Scammers hired bank accounts of poor labourers and lent the accounts to cyber fraudsters

Cybercrime police and CID detained five individuals who "hired" low-income workers' bank accounts and lent them to online scammers. According to authorities, scammers would target the poor and ignorant. They also said that gang members offered them between Rs 15,000 and Rs 20,000 per month to rent their bank accounts, which were used to conduct transactions totalling millions of rupees. This group rented bank accounts for a variety of online scams. Mobile phones, ATM cards, and bank passbooks that were used in the Rs 5.5 crore scam were confiscated by the police.



## A woman, 74, duped of Rs 37.9 lakh in cyber fraud case

Cyber fraudsters duped a 74-year-old woman of Rs. 37.9 lakh on the pretext that she is involved in a money laundering case and is under investigation. The victim received a call from a person who claimed that a FIR was registered against her. The scammers sent fake letters to her from CBI and RBI claiming that her bank account was involved in illegal transactions related to the owner of a private airlines company case. "The fraudsters demanded that the victim reveal her bank account details and threatened to freeze her account. She was also threatened of arrest," said an official of cybercrime police station. The fraudsters asked the woman to transfer funds into RBI and assured of returning it along with interest. Panicked by the calls, the victim withdrew her fixed deposits worth Rs. 37.90 lakh and transferred to the bank accounts of the fraudsters, the official added.

## 85-Year-Old Man Duped Of ₹1.24 Crore in Digital Arrest Scam

In a single day, an 85-year-old man lost Rs 1.24 crore to scammers after falling victim to digital arrest fraud. A self-identified caller purporting to be from the telecom department called the victim at around 10 a.m. on September 11. The victim was further informed by the caller that his money obtained through deception had been discovered to have been transferred to their account, that he had been implicated in money laundering, and that a formal complaint had been filed against him by the Crime Branch. The victim was also informed by the caller that a SIM card that had been used for financial fraud had been obtained in their name. The victim was then provided with the scammer's mobile number and was asked to make a call to the same number.

## Two accused have been arrested by Haryana Police in connection with Rs 82 lakh cyber fraud case committed in the name of digital arrest

Two accused, including a woman, have been arrested in connection with Rs 82 lakh cyber fraud case committed in the name of digital arrest. However, the mastermind of the case and those involved in making the phone call could not be traced yet. According to the information, a retired army officer had lodged a complaint on Oct 15 after he received a voice call from an unknown number. "He was threatened that a mobile number in his name is being used to carry out criminal activities. After that, cyber criminals called from different numbers, posing as fake police sub-inspector, cyber cell officer and CBI officer and confined the victim and his wife to their home for about two days continuously by saying that they were under digital arrest," said a police officer.