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# CYBER DIGEST



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INDIAN CYBER CRIME COORDINATION CENTRE

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## NATIONAL

S. No.	News
1.	Rs 122 Crore Cyber Fraud Busted in Rajasthan, Mastermind Arrested <b>(ETV Bharat)</b>
2.	Cops arrest 16 people working with fake Bengaluru-based BPO involved in 'digital arrest' scam <b>(The New Indian Express)</b>
3.	eSIM Fraud Hits Mumbai: Doctor Loses ₹11 Lakh After Sharing OTP <b>(The 420)</b>
4.	CBI Busts Cybercrime Gang Operating Across Three States, Three Held <b>(News 18)</b>
5.	Ahmedabad Cyber Crime busts gang that duped investor of ₹41 lakh through fake FB investment app <b>(Gujarat Samachar)</b>
6.	Cyber Crooks Impersonate Chief Justice, Dupe Elders Of Rs 6.72 Cr In Maharashtra's Nashik <b>(ETV Bharat)</b>
7.	Serial cyber fraudster arrested for cheating businessman of ₹1 crore <b>(The Hindu)</b>

## INTERNATIONAL

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### S. No.

### News

**1**

Officials crack down on Southeast Asia cybercrime networks, seize \$15B  
(Cyber scoop)

**2**

EU to sign UN Convention on Cybercrime (CSO)

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# National

## Rs 122 Crore Cyber Fraud Busted in Rajasthan, Mastermind Arrested

Police in Rajasthan dismantled a major cyber fraud network on Monday, arresting the alleged mastermind of a network of fraudsters who had pooled over Rs 122 crore of fraudulent money in several bank accounts.

The Bhiwadi Cyber Police arrested Ankit Sharma, who had allegedly supplied other cyber fraudsters with access to bank accounts of fake firms and individuals for a commission.

From his possession, the police seized a large number of banking documents, cash, and digital equipment. After uncovering several

cyber fraud cases linked to him, the police are now searching for other members of the network.

Bhiwadi Superintendent of Police Prashant Kiran said that the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (NCCRP) received 183 complaints of cyber fraud against Sharma's bank accounts from various states involving Rs 122.21 crore. Fraud money from across India moved through these accounts. The accused created several bank accounts under fake company names to circulate defrauded money.

## Cops arrest 16 people working with fake Bengaluru-based BPO involved in 'digital arrest' scam

Sixteen people working with a fake BPO firm in HSR Layout have been arrested for their part in a 'digital arrest' scam that targeted victims even in America and Canada. A case was registered by Bengaluru cops after raids on the firm.

The FIR stated that police received credible information on October 7 that the firm operating under the name of Cybits Solution Pvt Ltd at HSR Layout was involved in fraud, the *Press Trust of India* reported.

Enquiries by cops led to the discovery that the firm had recruited close to 20-25 young men and women and allegedly provided them with online training on how to commit cyber fraud.

The accused contacted unsuspecting individuals, including those in America and Canada, online and threatened them by falsely claiming to be cops or members of other investigative agencies.

## eSIM Fraud Hits Mumbai: Doctor Loses ₹11 Lakh After Sharing OTP

In a shocking case highlighting the growing menace of digital identity theft, a doctor from South Mumbai was duped of nearly ₹11 lakh after falling prey to a sophisticated eSIM-based cyber fraud. The South Region Cyber Police have arrested a 23-year-old man, identified as Rohan Waghmode, who received

part of the defrauded money in his bank account. Authorities say the operation appears to be part of a larger cybercrime network using fake eSIM conversion calls to take over victims' digital and banking identities.

The victim, a doctor in his fifties, received a call on September 14 from a person claiming to represent his telecom provider. The caller offered to help him convert his physical SIM card into an eSIM, promising better network flexibility and digital convenience.

Trusting the caller, the doctor followed the instructions, opening his telecom provider's official app and requesting an eSIM. When he received a One-Time Password (OTP), he unknowingly shared it with the fraudster. The

caller assured him the eSIM would activate within 24 hours, but it never did.

Two days later, the doctor received a notification that someone had accessed his email account at 8:39 a.m. The password and recovery details were changed, effectively locking him out. When he rushed to his bank, it was too late — ₹10.5 lakh had already been siphoned off through a series of rapid IMPS and UPI transfers to multiple accounts.

## **CBI Busts Cybercrime Gang Operating Across Three States, Three Held**

The Central Bureau of Investigation has conducted simultaneous raids across Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala to crack down on a massive cyber-enabled part-time job and investment fraud scheme.

Three individuals have been arrested in connection with the case, which was initiated based on inputs from the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C), Ministry of Home Affairs.

The scam, which has defrauded thousands of Indian citizens of crores of rupees, involved a complex network of both Indian and foreign nationals. The fraudsters used social media, mobile apps, and encrypted messaging platforms to lure victims with fake promises of

high returns from online investments and part-time jobs.

The CBI uncovered a web of shell companies, mainly in Bangalore, that were used to launder illicit funds. Unsuspecting individuals were duped into becoming directors of these companies under the guise of employment in e-commerce or fintech sectors.

As per the official statement, the fraudsters employed digital ads, bulk SMS campaigns, and SIM Box systems to promote their schemes, recruiting victims via Telegram, WhatsApp, and other platforms. Using forged credentials and fraudulently obtained digital signatures, they set up fake companies and bank accounts to collect funds.

## **Ahmedabad Cyber Crime busts gang that duped investor of ₹41 lakh through fake FB investment app**

The Ahmedabad Cyber Crime Branch has arrested three men from Navsari and Surat for allegedly duping a city-based complainant of ₹41.04 lakh through a fake online investment scheme operated under the name 'Indira Finance Services' on Facebook.

Between December 20, 2024 and February 17, 2025, the complainant came across an advertisement on Facebook promoting an investment scheme offering high returns. After clicking on the link, he was added to a WhatsApp group called 'Trend Exchange Group', where he received investment tips and IPO updates from multiple mobile numbers.

A complaint was subsequently lodged with the Cyber Crime Branch under Sections of the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, along with Sections of the Information Technology Act. Police

seized a total of six mobile phones worth ₹32,000 from the accused, including Apple, Vivo and OnePlus devices allegedly used in the scam.

## **Cyber Crooks Impersonate Chief Justice, Dupe Elders Of Rs 6.72 Cr In Maharashtra's Nashik**

In two separate incidents of the 'digital arrest' scam, two senior citizens from Nashik in Maharashtra were duped of Rs 6.72 crore by unidentified cyber crooks, the police said on Tuesday.

The criminals threatened to produce them in the court of the Chief Justice of India, BR Gavai. Nashik cyber police registered an FIR on Monday and launched an investigation into the incidents that occurred in August, an official said.

According to the complaint received at the Cyber Police Station, 74-year-old Anil Lalasare, a resident of the Gangapur Road area, who is suffering from age-related

ailments, received a video call on August 26, 2025, stating that a credit card had been issued in his name in Mumbai, which was used for illegal transactions and money laundering.

He was also forced to pay Rs 72 lakh as a fine through RTGS by pretending that he had been presented online in the court of the CJI. "The criminals faked the old man to be presented before the CJI on a video call. The fake Chief Justice said that he should pay the fine of Rs 72 lakh immediately through RTGS or else the CBI would arrest him. He pressured him by saying that the CBI team had come to his house," said Sanjay Pise, Cyber Police Station Inspector

## **Serial cyber fraudster arrested for cheating businessman of ₹1 crore**

A habitual cyber fraudster was arrested by Pattabhipuram police for allegedly cheating a rice mill owner of nearly ₹1 crore by impersonating as police and Income Tax officials.

Guntur District Superintendent of Police (SP) Vakul Jindal at a press conference here on Tuesday said that the accused Choda Chaitanya Krishna Pawan (27), a resident of Inkollu in Bapatla district, contacted the victim from different phone numbers impersonating a police officer, alleging that the businessman had been involved in obscene chats with

women. The accused then demanded money to settle the issue. Later, posing as an Income Tax officer using another number, the accused threatened that the rice mill would be raided for suspicious transactions unless a bribe amount was paid. Fearing consequences, the victim transferred close to ₹1 crore to the bank accounts specified by the accused.

Investigations revealed that the fraudster had previously been involved in multiple similar crimes. In 2022, he cheated a man in Hyderabad of ₹1.7 lakh and was arrested by the Cyberabad crime police.



# International

## Officials crack down on Southeast Asia cybercrime networks, seize \$15B

Federal authorities seized 127,271 Bitcoin, valued at approximately \$15 billion, from Chen Zhi, the alleged leader of a sprawling cybercrime network based in Cambodia, the Justice Department said Tuesday. Officials said it's the largest financial seizure on record.

"Today's action represents one of the most significant strikes ever against the global scourge of human trafficking and cyber-enabled financial fraud," Attorney General Pamela Bondi said in a statement.

Officials said Chen, a 38-year-old United Kingdom and Cambodian national who has renounced his Chinese citizenship, built a business empire under the Prince Group

umbrella headquartered in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, that constructs, operates and manages scam compounds that rely on human trafficking and modern-day slavery.

A criminal indictment against Chen was also unsealed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York. He remains at large and the FBI is seeking information about his whereabouts. Chen faces up to 40 years in prison for his alleged crimes.

Chen is accused of founding and running Prince Group since 2015, resulting in a global expansion that has brought the cybercrime network's operations to dozens of entities spanning more than 30 countries.

## EU to sign UN Convention on Cybercrime

The Council of Europe has authorized the European Commission and member states to sign the United Nations Convention against Cybercrime.

The international treaty establishes common standards at the global level to improve cooperation on cybercrime and the exchange of evidence in electronic format to aid in criminal investigations or prosecutions.

The UN Convention against Cybercrime was adopted by the UN General Assembly in December 2024. According to the Convention, the EU (and other regional economic integration organizations) can sign and ratify it if at least one of its member states does so.

The current timing couldn't be worse: according to a 2024 Europol threat assessment, cybercrime has increased dramatically in terms of volume, intensity and potential for harm. At the same time, electronic evidence has become increasingly important in the context of criminal investigations.

As Peter Hummelgaard, the Danish minister of justice, said in a statement issued by the Council of Europe, "computer fraud, large-scale hacking, the scourge of online child sexual abuse and exploitation, as well as other forms of cybercrime, are on the rise.

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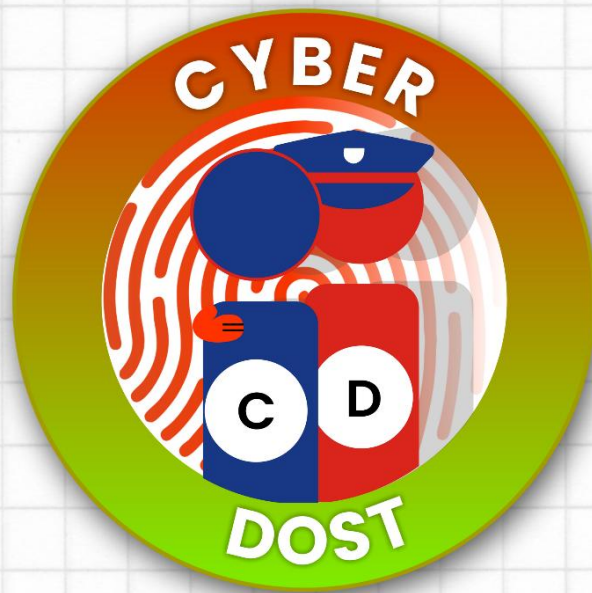
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*In Case of Online  
Financial Fraud  
Dial 1930*

**FOR ANY CYBER CRIME COMPLAINT REPORT ON  
<https://cybercrime.gov.in>**

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