

WATCHLIST – FRAUDS THIS WEEK

TRUE BUDDY

Consulting

FRIDAY 23rd OCT 2020

HIGHLIGHTS

INDIA

INTERNATIONAL

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. OVER 30,800 LITRE ILLICIT LIQUOR SEIZED ACROSS UP DURING LAST WEEK | 1. ANTI-COUNTERFEITING CRACKDOWNS NET NEARLY 600 TONNES OF DRUGS AND PRODUCTS IN CAMBODIA |
| 2. 180 LITRES OF ILLICIT LIQUOR SEIZED IN GANJAN DISTRICT OF ODISHA | 2. FAKE GOODS CRACKDOWN UNDERWAY AS COUNTERFEITS SURGE IN KOREA |
| 3. FAKE ZARDA MANUFACTURING UNIT BUSTED IN ODISHA'S JAJPUR | 3. ITALIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE BROKEN UP A RING OF CRIMINALS COUNTERFEITING ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S TOP WINES |
| 4. COUNTERFEIT CURRENCY RACKET BUSTED IN NAYAGARH, TWO ARRESTED | 4. ITALIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE BROKEN UP A RING OF CRIMINALS COUNTERFEITING ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S TOP WINES |
| 5. ANDHRA POLICE RECOVERS 100 QUINTALS OF PDS RICE BEING TRANSPORTED ILLEGALLY IN KRISHNA DISTRICT, FIVE HELD | 5. THIRTEEN PEOPLE CHARGED AFTER ALLEGED \$500,000 DAYCARE FRAUD IN SYDNEY |
| 6. FORMER INCOME TAX OFFICER ALLEGES Rs 2,000 CRORE SCAM IN SURAT | 6. ITALIAN POLICE SEIZE 4,000 BOTTLES OF COUNTERFEIT 'SUPER TUSCAN' WINE |
| 7. CHIT FUND SCAM AGAINST MALAYALEE-OWNED FIRM IN DELHI | 7. SHOTGUN, COCAINE AND \$10K IN COUNTERFEIT BILLS SEIZED IN BRAMPTON INVESTIGATION |
| 8. SEBI PENALISES (Rs 31 CRORE) KIRLOSKAR BROTHERS' PROMOTERS, OTHERS FOR FRAUD IN MUMBAI | 8. GOOGLE REMOVES 3,000 CHINA-LINKED FAKE YOUTUBE CHANNELS IN SAN FRANCISCO |
| 9. ED ARRESTS ACCUSED IN Rs 25.25-CRORE COOPERATIVE BANK FRAUD CASE IN AHMEDABAD | 9. FRAUDULENT INDIGENIOUS ART IS FLOODING MUSEUMS IN TEXAS |
| 10. AN ODISHA-BASED MICRO LENDER AT THE CENTRE OF A Rs 251 CRORE LOAN FRAUD | 10. ICE ARRESTS 15 FOREIGN STUDENTS FOR ALLEGEDLY USING VISA PROGRAM TO STAY IN U.S. FRAUDULENTLY IN WASHINGTON |

INDIA

1. OVER 30,800 LITRE ILLICIT LIQUOR SEIZED ACROSS UP DURING LAST WEEK

Link: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bareilly/over-30800litre-illicit-liquor-seized-across-up-during-last-week/articleshow/78774995.cms>

Extra vigil in the wake of upcoming polls in Bihar and by-elections in UP has resulted in the seizure of over 30,800 liters of illicit liquor in the state last week, police said. It has long been alleged that candidates distribute free liquor to locals, especially to people from the weaker sections of the society, to influence their voting behavior. Joint teams of the state excise department and the police also recovered 94,732 kilograms of 'lahan' (raw material used for distillation of illicit liquor). The excise teams have registered 1,033 cases in this connection.

2. 180 LITRES OF ILLICIT LIQUOR SEIZED IN GANJAM DISTRICT OF ODISHA

Link: <https://kalingatv.com/state/180-litres-of-illicit-liquor-seized-in-ganjam-district-of-odisha/>

Police seized a huge quantity of illicit liquor on Wednesday in Kanthigada village under Digapahandi Police Limits of Ganjam district of Odisha. Digapahandi police along with Executive Magistrate of Ganjam conducted a joint raid in Kanthigada village and seized 180 litres of illicit liquor worth Rs 3.8 lakh. Along with liquor, police also seized a huge quantity of illicit apparatus and 7000 litres of Gur wash.

3. FAKE ZARDA MANUFACTURING UNIT BUSTED IN ODISHA'S JAJPUR

Link: <https://kalingatv.com/state/fake-zarda-manufacturing-unit-busted-in-odishas-jajpur/>

Police on Saturday busted a fake zarda (chewing tobacco) manufacturing unit following raids at Malahata Bazar under Jenapur police limits in Odisha's Jajpur district and seized huge quantity of duplicate zarda and tobacco products of reputed brands. The cops also arrested three persons in this connection. The accused have been identified as Sura Rout, Jagat Rout and Sudam Rout of Malahata village. According to reports, the illegal zarda manufacturing unit was operating for last few months. On getting information, a police team led by Jajpur SDPO conducted a raid and busted the duplicate tobacco manufacturing unit.

4. COUNTERFEIT CURRENCY RACKET BUSTED IN NAYAGARH, TWO ARRESTED

Link: <https://www.orissapost.com/counterfeit-currency-racket-busted-in-nayagarh-two-arrested/>

In a major breakthrough, Nayagarh town police Tuesday arrested two persons for printing and circulating fake currency notes. The police have seized counterfeit currency notes to the tune of Rs 1.25 lakhs from the possession of the accused duo. "The arrested had gone to Utkal Automobiles showroom here in the morning. The duo consulted sales staffers for purchase of a motorbike and accordingly deposited the requisite amount. The deposited currency notes were found to be fake ones," town police station IIC Jaydeep Mohanty said.

5. ANDHRA POLICE RECOVERS 100 QUINTALS OF PDS RICE BEING TRANSPORTED ILLEGALLY IN KRISHNA DISTRICT, FIVE HELD

Link: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/andhra-pradesh/andhra-police-recovers-100-quintals-of-pds-rice-being-transported-illegally-in-krishna-district-five-held/story-JmiZGJesvZpDOZyqA9pbjN.html>

Police recovered 100 quintals of rice, meant for the Public Distribution System (PDS), being illegally transported at Vatsavai check post in Andhra Pradesh's Krishna district. The PDS rice was being transported from Wyra town in Khammam district of Telangana to Kakinada in East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh on Tuesday.

The police further identified that the accused were using fake waybills for illegal transportation of PDS rice. Jaggaiahpet Circle Inspector Chandrasekhar told the media that four persons and a lorry driver have already been taken into custody while more three more accused are yet to be caught.

6. FORMER INCOME TAX OFFICER ALLEGES Rs 2,000 CRORE SCAM IN SURAT

Link: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/surat/bjp-leader-alleges-rs-2k-crore-scam/articleshow/78795316.cms>

A former income tax officer, who retired 15 years ago to join BJP, PVS Sarma has alleged Rs 2,000 crore money laundering scam executed during the demonetization period involving top jewelers, builders, textile and diamond industrialists. Sarma who has demanded a probe by Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and Enforcement Department (ED) has also alleged connivance of chartered accountants (CAs), income tax officers in the multi-crore scam which defeated the purpose of the Income Disclosure Scheme (IDS) launched by the central government in November 2016.

7. CHIT FUND SCAM AGAINST MALAYALEE-OWNED FIRM IN DELHI

Link: <https://english.mathrubhumi.com/news/crime-beat/chit-fund-scam-against-malayalee-owned-firm-in-delhi-1.5147472>

It is being alleged Royal Chit Fund, owned by Changanassery native KS Kunjumon, has been cheating people over the years. The firm has been functioning here for over 10 years. Crores of rupees of many Malayalees who had joined chits and deposits have been swindled. Royal Chit Fund had stopped returning the money to the investors three years back. However, with the connections of Malayalee associations, this was dragged on for three years, the victims said. The owner had said that he is into ship dismantling business in Kerala and everyone's money will be paid at once in full. He had even handed over signed cheques to many. Some of the victims have approached court. They are also gearing up to lodge a complaint with Kerala Chief Minister and DGP.

8. SEBI PENALISES (Rs 31 CRORE) KIRLOSKAR BROTHERS' PROMOTERS, OTHERS FOR FRAUD IN MUMBAI

Link: <https://www.bloomberquint.com/law-and-policy/sebi-penalises-kirloskar-brothers-ltd-promoters-others-for-fraud>

Regulator SEBI has imposed a penalty of Rs 31 crore on Kirloskar Brothers Ltd.'s promoters and others for indulging in insider trading and committing fraud on public shareholders. The case pertains to trades made in 2010. Also, the entities have been barred from the capital markets for periods ranging from three months, the regulator said in three separate orders on Tuesday. Of the total Rs 31.21 crore, they have been asked to disgorge Rs 16.6 crore of ill-gotten gains along with 4% interest, and in addition a penalty of Rs 14.5 crore has been levied on them.

9. ED ARRESTS ACCUSED IN Rs 25.25-CRORE COOPERATIVE BANK FRAUD CASE IN AHMEDABAD

Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/ed-arrests-accused-in-2525-crore-cooperative-bank-fraud-case/article32860590.ece>

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has arrested Niketa Baldevbhai Dave, a director of Pentium Infotech Limited and Hirak Biotech Limited, in connection with an alleged fraud of ₹25.25 crore in the Ahmedabad People's Cooperative Bank Limited. The agency has secured four days' custody of the accused from a special court in Ahmedabad. The case is based on the investigation conducted by the CID-Crime of Gandhinagar Zone. It was alleged that Ms. Dave, another director Pratik R. Shah, and others were involved in the fraud.

10. AN ODISHA-BASED MICRO LENDER AT THE CENTRE OF A Rs 251 CRORE LOAN FRAUD

Link: <https://www.livemint.com/industry/banking/an-odisha-based-micro-lender-at-the-centre-of-a-rs-251-crore-loan-fraud-11602761191186.html>

A fraud of ₹251 crore unearthed at a small Odisha-based non-banking financial company (NBFC) micro-finance institution (MFI) has put the spotlight on "bogus accounts" as the modus operandi for fund diversions. Sambandh Finserve Private Limited (SFPL) has disclosed to a rating agency that it has defaulted on its repayments because of a fraud in its books. The company with debt of ₹433 crore is undergoing an internal investigation as ordered by its board. In a letter to the board on 7 October, four senior company executives detailed how the actual assets under management (AUM) is approximately ₹140 crore as against the reported figure of ₹391 crore as on 30 September.

INTERNATIONAL

1. ANTI-COUNTERFEITING CRACKDOWNS NET NEARLY 600 TONNES OF DRUGS AND PRODUCTS IN CAMBODIA

Link: <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50775663/anti-counterfeiting-crackdowns-net-nearly-600-tonnes-of-drugs-and-products/>

The Cambodia Counter Counterfeit Committee (CCCC) has seized nearly 600 tonnes of illegal drugs, medical and counterfeit products during nationwide crackdowns over the past nine months. This was revealed in a CCCC report on Tuesday during a meeting on "Implementation Mechanisms for Combating Counterfeit Products and Implementation Directions" at the Interior Ministry. Lieutenant General Tan Sok Vichea, director of the CCCC Secretariat, said that to date, authorities have worked on 134 cases leading to the seizure of 594.65 tonnes of counterfeit products.

2. FAKE GOODS CRACKDOWN UNDERWAY AS COUNTERFEITS SURGE IN KOREA

Link: <https://koreajoongangdaily.joins.com/2020/10/19/business/industry/KIPO-intellectual-property-counterfeit/20201019190700383.html>

The Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) is taking measures to crack down on the sale of counterfeit luxury items on social media platforms, as the number of cases involving these products has shot up. KIPO on Wednesday announced measures against the distribution of counterfeit goods through online platforms. According to the office, reports of online counterfeit products rose 204.4 percent on year from January to August. "Due to the coronavirus spread, online shopping transactions soared, and reports of the sale of counterfeit products online have also skyrocketed," said Chung Kee-hyun, the director of the intellectual property investigation division at KIPO. Statistics Korea said the turnover of online shopping malls rose from 86.6 trillion won (\$75.7 billion) in 2019 January-August period to 101.8 trillion over the same period this year.

3. ITALIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE BROKEN UP A RING OF CRIMINALS COUNTERFEITING ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S TOP WINES

Link: <https://www.wine-searcher.com/m/2020/10/italian-police-smash-fake-wine-ring>

Italian police have closed down a counterfeit ring that was producing knock-offs of one of Italy's most famous wines after the evidence literally fell off the back of a truck. Police and revenue officials from the Tuscan city of Florence have smashed an international ring involved in counterfeiting Sassicaia, one of Italy's most exclusive red wines. The probe, code-named Bad Tuscan, led to two members of the gang being placed under house arrest over the weekend, while a further 11 suspects are being investigated for offences ranging from counterfeiting of a trademark to receiving stolen goods.

4. COUNTERFEIT GOODS WORTH MILLIONS SEIZED IN JOHANNESBURG

Link: <https://www.enca.com/news/counterfeit-goods-worth-millions-seized-jhb>

The South African Revenue Service customs department and law enforcement agencies have uncovered nearly R20-million worth of counterfeit and illegal goods in the Johannesburg CBD. "The products may be substandard or even counterfeit or contain a substance that is dangerous for humans." Authorities say they know who they're dealing with, though there have been no arrests made.

5. THIRTEEN PEOPLE CHARGED AFTER ALLEGED \$500,000 DAYCARE FRAUD IN SYDNEY

Link: <https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/thirteen-people-charged-after-alleged-500-000-daycare-fraud-20201021-p567d1.html>

Police have arrested two ringleaders and 11 other people in relation to an alleged criminal syndicate operating a large-scale family daycare fraud in Sydney's south-west. In July 2018, detectives from several agencies established Strike Force Mercury to investigate the coordinated fraudulent activities targeting family daycare operations, with the assistance of NSW Department of Education. Police received information that a criminal syndicate, allegedly directly by a 46-year-old woman and a 29-year-old man, was operating a sophisticated scam and collected up to \$500,000 in government payments in the past eight months, including \$138,000 from the COVID-19 stimulus package that was developed to support the childcare sector.

6. ITALIAN POLICE SEIZE 4,000 BOTTLES OF COUNTERFEIT 'SUPER TUSCAN' WINE

Link: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/oct/15/italy-police-seize-bottles-counterfeit-super-tuscan-wine-bolgheri-sassicaia>

Italian police have seized more than 4,000 counterfeit bottles of a prestigious "super Tuscan" wine that can fetch up to €360 (£325) a bottle. The operation, called Bad Tuscan, led to the arrests of two people with 11 others under investigation for allegedly counterfeiting one of the storied red wine, Bolgheri Sassicaia by Tenuta San Guido. Investigators said the counterfeit wine originated in Sicily, while the bottles hailed from Turkey and the labels and wooden boxes came from Bulgaria. The operation culminated in the confiscation of 700 cases of wine totaling 4,200 bottles. The 2010 and 2015 vintages, celebrated by Italian and international critics, were the most prevalent among the fakes.

7. SHOTGUN, COCAINE AND \$10K IN COUNTERFEIT BILLS SEIZED IN BRAMPTON INVESTIGATION

Link: <https://www.bramptonguardian.com/news-story/10224730-shotgun-cocaine-and-10k-in-counterfeit-bills-seized-in-brampton-investigation/>

A drug trafficking investigation in Brampton has led to the seizure of a 12-gauge shotgun, counterfeit bills and a quantity of cocaine. According to Peel Regional Police, a month-long investigation was conducted into suspected drug trafficking in the area of Dixie Road and Templehill Road in Brampton. On Thursday, Oct. 15, as a result of the investigation, a man was arrested and a warrant was executed to search a home. The search warrant led to the seizure of a Norinoc 12-gauge shotgun, a loaded shotgun magazine, more than \$10,000 in counterfeit currency and a substance believed to be cocaine. A 24-year-old Brampton man has been charged with numerous offences including possession for the purpose of trafficking and possession of a firearm, among others.

8. GOOGLE REMOVES 3,000 CHINA-LINKED FAKE YOUTUBE CHANNELS IN SAN FRANCISCO

Link: <https://telanganatoday.com/google-removes-3000-china-linked-fake-youtube-channels>

As the US presidential election inches closer, Google said it has terminated more than 3,000 fake YouTube channels in July-September period which were part of a large spam network linked to China that attempted to run an influence operation on YouTube. As a result, this large China-operated network hasn't been able to build an audience. "Most of the videos we identify have fewer than 10 views, and most of these views appear to come from related spam accounts rather than actual users," Google said in a statement late on Friday.

9. FRAUDULENT INDIGENIOUS ART IS FLOODING MUSEUMS IN TEXAS

Link: <https://www.thenation.com/article/culture/ledger-art-indigenous-forgery/>

At least 20 of the pieces that have been on display at the Lander Pioneer Museum for the past two years are possible forgeries or frauds. The suspected counterfeit art speaks to a serious problem with authentication in the art world- one in which an eBay auctioneer in East Texas used online markets to sell unauthenticated, and perhaps forged art to a Wyoming buyer with no formal expertise, who then transferred that art to a museum where it was presented to the public as real.

10. ICE ARRESTS 15 FOREIGN STUDENTS FOR ALLEGEDLY USING VISA PROGRAM TO STAY IN U.S. FRAUDULENTLY IN WASHINGTON

Link: <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/immigration/ice-arrests-15-foreign-students-allegedly-using-visa-program-stay-n1244170>

Fifteen foreign students have been arrested for allegedly using a student work visa job program to stay in the U.S. fraudulently, Immigration and Customs Enforcement announced on Wednesday. Officials from ICE and the Department of Homeland Security said the students, most from India, had claimed to work for companies that don't exist, and that the arrests were preliminary results from a law enforcement investigation that began in January called Operation OPTical Illusion.



TRUE BUDDY CONSULTING PRIVATE LIMITED
16th Floor, Tower - B, World Trade Tower
Sector 16, Noida - 201301
Contact: +91 78389 89503
Website: www.tbcpl.co.in

To Unsubscribe
Please contact us at +91 7838989503
OR
Send a mail on controlroom@tbcpl.co.in