## WATCHLIST – FRAUDS THIS WEEK



## **HIGHLIGHTS**

	INDIA	INTERNATIONAL
1.	ILLICIT LIQUOR UNIT UNEARTHED AT RAIPUR RANI, 10 ARRESTED	1. MAN ARRESTED IN RUBAVU WITH OVER Rwf 13M WORTH OF COUNTERFEIT CURRENCY
2.	700 BOXES OF ILLICIT LIQUOR SEIZED IN GREATER NOIDA, ONE HELD	2. CANADIAN BORDER SERVICES SEIZES HUNDREDS OF COUNTERFEIT EDMONTON BUS PASSES
3.	FAKE CURRENCY NOTES WORTH Rs 10 LAKH SEIZED IN LAKHIMPUR	3. COUNTERFEIT CIGARETTES CONFISCATED IN KLIPTOWN
4.	FAKE PLACEMENT AGENCIES CHEAT ASPIRANTS IN THE NAME OF IT JOBS IN ANDHRA PRADESH	4. FAKE GUCCI SHOES WORTH \$450,000 SEIZED IN LOUISVILLE
5.	AMRITSAR CENT CO-OP BANK UNDER LENS FOR A SCAM OF Rs 25 CRORE	5. GROUP SOLD 7,000 FAKE HUAWEI DEVICES BY REBRANDING PHONES WORTH 40 YUAN (\$6) CHINA
6.	ONE HELD WITH COUNTERFEIT CURRENCY WORTH Rs 25,000 IN KURUKSHETRA	6. APPLE ACCUSES RECYCLING PARTNER OF RESELLING MOR THAN 100,000 DEVICES IN CANADA
7.	ED ATTACHES PROPERTIES WORTH Rs 82.83 CRORES IN A BANK FRAUD CASE RAJASTHAN	7. EX-COMMONWEALTH REP PLEADS GUILTY TO \$3.7M IN U.S.
8.	UGC DECLARES 24 UNIVERSITIES IN COUNTRY AS 'FAKE'; MAJORITY FROM UTTAR PRADESH, DELHI	8. COUNTERFEIT COVID-19 TESTS, MEDICATIONS SEIZED BY CUSTOMS OFFICIALS IN PHILADELPHIA, BALTIMORE AND WASHINGTON
9.	FAKE CURRENCY RACKET BUSTED, 4 HELD IN KOLHAPUR	9. BALTIMORE CUSTOMS AGENTS SEIZE OVER 50K COUNTERFEIT FACE MASKS
10.	DELHI ENGINEER DUPED OF Rs 28 LAKH ON PRETEXT OF JOB OFFER	10. CUSTOMS SEIZE \$552K IN FAKE DESIGNER CELLPHONE COVERS, JEWELRY, LUXURY WATCHES IN SAN JUAN

## **INDIA**

## 1. ILLICIT LIQUOR UNIT UNEARTHED AT RAIPUR RANI, 10 ARRESTED

Link: https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/chandigarh/illicit-liquor-unit-unearthed-at-raipur-rani-10-arrested-151218

A team of the Chief Minister's flying squad, along with the crime branch of the Panchkula police, today unearthed an illegal liquor manufacturing unit in Raipur Rani here and arrested 10 persons. The police also recovered 400 gm of opium, 33 boxes of illegal liquor, Rs 80,000 and material being used to manufacture illicit liquor from them. Those arrested have been identified as Krishan, Ranbeer, Jaibeer, Rajesh Kumar, Ram Lakhan, Prem Singh, Bhim Singh, Sagun, Surender Pal and Gautam.

## 2. 700 BOXES OF ILLICIT LIQUOR SEIZED IN GREATER NOIDA, ONE HELD

Link: https://www.aninews.in/news/national/general-news/700-boxes-of-illicit-liquor-seized-in-greater-noida-one-

held20201005082533/

As many as 700 boxes of illicit liquor worth about Rs 50 lakhs was allegedly seized from a truck on National Highway 91 in Greater Noida. As per the police, one person has been arrested in connection to the incident. One of the accused, Pawan, was injured on the leg in the crossfire and has been taken to a nearby hospital.

### 3. FAKE CURRENCY NOTES WORTH Rs 10 LAKH SEIZED IN LAKHIMPUR

Link: https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/quwahati/fake-currency-notes-worth-rs-10-lakh-seized-in-

lakhimpur/articleshow/78487110.cms

Assam Police on Saturday busted a fake Indian currency note racket and arrested one person in Lakhimpur. A few other persons who are part of the racket managed to flee the spot after police arrived. The police seized one cash-printing machine and fake currency notes worth Rs 10 lakh. The arrested person has been identified as Habibur Rahman alias Akani. He was also wanted in a different case registered in Bihpuria police station and was absconding.

### 4. FAKE PLACEMENT AGENCIES CHEAT ASPIRANTS IN THE NAME OF IT JOBS IN ANDHRA PRADESH

**Link:** <a href="https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/visakhapatnam/fake-placement-agencies-cheat-aspirants-in-the-name-of-it-placement-agencies-cheat-aspirants-in-the-name-of-it-placement-agencies-cheat-aspirants-in-the-name-of-it-placement-agencies-cheat-aspirants-in-the-name-of-it-placement-agencies-cheat-aspirants-in-the-name-of-it-placement-agencies-cheat-aspirants-in-the-name-of-it-placement-agencies-cheat-aspirants-in-the-name-of-it-placement-agencies-cheat-aspirants-in-the-name-of-it-placement-agencies-cheat-aspirants-in-the-name-of-it-placement-agencies-cheat-aspirants-in-the-name-of-it-placement-agencies-cheat-aspirants-in-the-name-of-it-placement-agencies-cheat-aspirants-in-the-name-of-it-placement-agencies-cheat-aspirants-in-the-name-of-it-placement-agencies-cheat-aspirants-in-the-name-of-it-placement-agencies-cheat-aspirants-in-the-name-of-it-placement-agencies-cheat-aspirants-in-the-name-of-it-placement-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-agencies-cheat-a

jobs/articleshow/78480873.cms

Fake placement agencies are cheating hundreds of youngsters across the state in the name of IT jobs, according to Information Technology Association of Andhra Pradesh (ITAAP). Speaking to TOI, ITAAP president Sreedhar Kosaraju said that some IT companies in Kakinada and Vishakhapatnam have approached cybercrime police seeking action. What fake placement agencies do is that they first download candidates' database from popular job portals. Then they generate fake offer letters matching the candidates' profile on duplicate company letterheads by pretending to be authorised placement agencies of genuine IT companies. Then, calls are made to targeted candidates and to conduct fake interviews and collect certificates to offer fake jobs.

## 5. AMRITSAR CENT CO-OP BANK UNDER LENS FOR A SCAM OF Rs 25 CRORE

Link: <a href="https://www.indiancooperative.com/co-op-news-snippets/amritsar-cent-co-op-bank-under-lens-for-a-scam-of-rs-25-crore/">https://www.indiancooperative.com/co-op-news-snippets/amritsar-cent-co-op-bank-under-lens-for-a-scam-of-rs-25-crore/</a>

The Punjab government has asked the CBI to probe into the alleged bungling of government funds by various cooperative societies under the Amritsar Central Cooperative Bank, reports Tribune. Earlier, Punjab Human Rights Organization (PHRO) had demanded a CBI investigation into the scam. The scam involved an amount of Rs 25 crore. PHRO principal investigator Sarabjit Singh Verka said if properly investigated the amount bungled could be hundreds of crores. It is worth recalling that early this year police had registered a FIR into a fraud of Rs 3 crore at Tarsikka branch of ACCB when some people had been booked and some arrested.

## 6. ONE HELD WITH COUNTERFEIT CURRENCY WORTH Rs 25,000 IN KURUKSHETRA

**Link:** <a href="https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/gurgaon/haryana-one-held-with-counterfeit-currency-worth-rs-25000-in-kurukshetra/articleshow/78520158.cms">https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/gurgaon/haryana-one-held-with-counterfeit-currency-worth-rs-25000-in-kurukshetra/articleshow/78520158.cms</a>

The Kurukshetra police crime investigation agency (CIA)-I arrested one Manoj Kumar of Kailram village of Kaithal district after recovering 50 counterfeit currency notes of Rs 500 denomination worth Rs 25,000 from his possession on Monday, DSP Mamta Sodha said. DSP Mamta told that CIA-I in-charge inspector Prateek Kumar was present at Umri Chowk with his team when they received a tip-off that Manoj Kumar is living in Delhi for the past three-four months and he prints counterfeit currency notes over there.

## 7. ED ATTACHES PROPERTIES WORTH Rs 82.83 CRORES IN A BANK FRAUD CASE IN ANDHRA PRADESH

Link: https://www.indiatoday.in/crime/story/ed-attaches-properties-worth-rs-82-83-crores-in-a-bank-fraud-case-1729431-2020-10-08

Enforcement Directorate (ED) has provisionally attached 74 immovable properties and eight movable properties (vehicles) held in the name of SLO Industries Ltd, Chennai, Anil Kumar Ojha, Sunitha Ojha, Arun Kumar Sharma, Mamta Sharma, Ashoka Kumar Sharma, SLO Steels Ltd, Mahalaxmi Steels and SLO Buldcon Pvt. Ltd totaling to Rs. 82.83 crore under the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA) in a bank fraud case. The assets belong to accused Anil Kumar Ojha, Director of SLO Industries Ltd, Chennai and other Directors which are located at Thiruvottiyur, Kilpauk, Kodambakkam, Gooumudipondi, Sollinganallur. Periyamet, Pammal Kanchipuram of Tamil Nadu, Krishna District of Andhra Pradesh and Churu, Bikaner, Jaipur of Rajasthan State.

## 8. UGC DECLARES 24 UNIVERSITIES IN COUNTRY AS 'FAKE'; MAJORITY FROM UTTAR PRADESH, DELHI

**Link:** <a href="https://www.livemint.com/education/news/ugc-declares-24-universities-in-country-as-fake-majority-from-uttar-pradesh-delhi-11602073315862.html">https://www.livemint.com/education/news/ugc-declares-24-universities-in-country-as-fake-majority-from-uttar-pradesh-delhi-11602073315862.html</a>

The University Grants Commission (UGC) today declared 24 universities as 'fake' in a move to carry its responsibility of maintaining standards of Higher Education in the country. "Students and public are informed that currently 24 self-styled, unrecognized institutions are functioning in contravention of the UGC Act, which have been declared as fake universities and these are not empowered to confer any degree," UGC Secretary Rajnish Jain said.

## 9. FAKE CURRENCY RACKET BUSTED, 4 HELD IN KOLHAPUR

**Link:** <a href="https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kolhapur/fake-currency-racket-busted-4-held/articleshow/78542540.cms">https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kolhapur/fake-currency-racket-busted-4-held/articleshow/78542540.cms</a>

Kurundwad police in Kolhapur district have arrested four people in connection with manufacturing of fake currency after they received a tip-off about the same. The suspects were nabbed by a team of local crime branch after they conducted a raid at a house in Khidrapur of Shirol taluka. Police recovered 51 notes Rs 2,000 denomination and 99 notes of Rs 100 from the house. Police suspect that the mastermind of the gang may have fled to the neighboring Karnataka state. A team of investigators have already left for the state to investigate the matter.

## 10. DELHI ENGINEER DUPED OF Rs 28 LAKH ON PRETEXT OF JOB OFFER

**Link:** https://www.indiatvnews.com/crime/delhi-engineer-duped-rs-28-lakh-fake-job-offer-655077

A 28-year-old security guard was arrested in connection with a case in which an engineer was duped of approximately Rs 28 lakh on the pretext of being given a job opportunity, police said on Wednesday. The accused, Pinkesh Kumar, worked as a guard at a housing project in Noida. Two years ago, he came in contact with a person who asked him to provide his bank account details on a commission basis, they said. On his insistence, Kumar opened accounts in different banks and later withdrew the cheated amount from ATMs. He got 10 percent as commission on the total withdrawal amount, police said.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### 1. MAN ARRESTED IN RUBAVU WITH OVER Rwf 13M WORTH OF COUNTERFEIT CURRENCY

Link: <a href="https://www.newtimes.co.rw/news/rubavu-man-arrested-over-rwf13m-worth-counterfeit-currency">https://www.newtimes.co.rw/news/rubavu-man-arrested-over-rwf13m-worth-counterfeit-currency</a>

Police operations against syndicates that print and distribute fake money in different parts of the country led to the arrest of one Djabil Munguyiko, 23, in Rubavu District, who is suspected to be the mastermind of one of the rackets. Munguyiko, a student of the Independent University of Kigali (ULK)-Kigali campus, was arrested on Saturday, October 3, in Rubavu sector, Byahi cell in Buhuru village with counterfeit money amounting to over Rwf13.6 million.

## 2. CANADIAN BORDER SERVICES SEIZES HUNDREDS OF COUNTERFEIT EDMONTON BUS PASSES

**Link**: <a href="https://edmontonjournal.com/news/local-news/man-charged-after-canadian-border-services-seizes-hundreds-of-counterfeit-edmonton-bus-passes">https://edmontonjournal.com/news/local-news/man-charged-after-canadian-border-services-seizes-hundreds-of-counterfeit-edmonton-bus-passes</a>

An Edmonton man has been charged by police and the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) after a package filled with counterfeit bus tickets was seized at the city's airport. CBSA officers at the Edmonton International Airport (EIA) examined a package from China labelled as book and business cards on June 26. The package contained a book and 16 plastic playing card sleeves containing hundreds of ETS adult July bus passes, a news release said Wednesday. There was a total of 1,047 bus passes with a street value of \$101,500 in the package.

#### 3. COUNTERFEIT CIGARETTES CONFISCATED IN KLIPTOWN

Link: <a href="https://sowetourban.co.za/81833/counterfeits-cigarettes-confiscticated-in-kliptown/">https://sowetourban.co.za/81833/counterfeits-cigarettes-confiscticated-in-kliptown/</a>

Working on a tip-off Johannesburg Metropolitan Police Department (JMPD) K9 officers together with SAPS members and Brands SA followed a tip-off of an alleged shop selling counterfeits at 59 Union Avenue at Kliptown. According to a media release that was issued Xolani Fihla Spokesperson of JMPD Xolani Fihla it is alleged that the shop owner was questioned and he denied the allegations of dealing with counterfeit goods. It further stated that the officials then searched the shop where they recovered 18 packets of Rizzla, 71 cartons of Wesley Cigarettes, 8 lose 20 Cigarette packets, 22 cartons of Red and Black Cigarettes, and 50 tins of Kiwi Shoe Polish, which were hidden behind the counters and inside the storeroom.

## 4. FAKE GUCCI SHOES WORTH \$450,000 SEIZED IN LOUISVILLE

Link: <a href="https://www.wtvq.com/2020/10/05/fake-qucci-shoes-worth-450000-seized/">https://www.wtvq.com/2020/10/05/fake-qucci-shoes-worth-450000-seized/</a>

U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers in Louisville recently seized a shipment that contained 625 counterfeit Gucci shoes worth more than \$450,000. Last Friday night, October 2, CBP officers held a shipment, manifested as cell phone shells for inspection. The parcel was inspected to determine the admissibility of its contents in accordance with CBP regulations. When the shipment was opened 625 phony Gucci shoes were found inside. The items were inspected by an import specialist who determined the items were counterfeit.

## 5. GROUP SOLD 7,000 FAKE HUAWEI DEVICES BY REBRANDING PHONES WORTH 40 YUAN (\$6) IN CHINA

Link: <a href="https://www.gizmochina.com/2020/10/05/group-sold-7000-fake-huawei-40-yuan-devices/">https://www.gizmochina.com/2020/10/05/group-sold-7000-fake-huawei-40-yuan-devices/</a>

Huawei is one of the largest and most popular smartphone brands in the world, especially in its home country, China, where it leads the local market. However, its popularity led a group to cash in on the company's success as they were recently caught having sold over 7,000 smartphones that were rebranded as Huawei devices. According to a Mydrivers report, Huawei smartphones have become more popular in China, despite the various issues it faces overseas. Due to this, a group seemingly faked the company's branding to sell a large number of smartphones made from another Chinese smartphone maker. A recent bust revealed that a group was manufacturing and selling fake Huawei devices that were built using an inferior and more affordable device.

## 6. APPLE ACCUSES RECYCLING PARTNER OF RESELLING MORE THAN 100,000 DEVICES IN CANADA

Link: <a href="https://nypost.com/2020/10/05/apple-accuses-recycling-partner-of-reselling-more-than-100000-devices/">https://nypost.com/2020/10/05/apple-accuses-recycling-partner-of-reselling-more-than-100000-devices/</a>

Apple has sued a former business partner it had hired to recycle more than 100,000 devices, accusing it of putting them up for sale instead. The iPhone maker is demanding at least \$22 million from GEEP Canada, which it says stole and resold 103,845 iPhones, iPads and Apple Watches that it had been hired to strip for parts. The suit, which was filed in January, according to The Logic, states that Apple had sent more than half a million devices to GEEP to recycled between 2015 and 2017, and following a routine audit realized that nearly 20 percent of them were still online.

## 7. EX-COMMONWEALTH REP PLEADS GUILTY TO \$3.7M IN U.S.

Link: https://www.financial-planning.com/news/barred-commonwealth-advisor-pleads-guilty-to-3-7m-fraud

A former Commonwealth Financial Network advisor allegedly steered millions of dollars from clients to himself over 20 years of deception in a practice near the firm's headquarters. Gerald A. Eaton forged signatures, made false representations to Commonwealth and insurance companies and even used an account under his wife's first name and a fake last name to steal \$3.7 million from at least 15 clients, according to the Massachusetts U.S. Attorney's office. Eaton, 51, pleaded guilty to three felony fraud charges on Sept. 30.

# 8. COUNTERFEIT COVID-19 TESTS, MEDICATIONS SEIZED BY CUSTOMS OFFICIALS IN PHILADELPHIA, BALTIMORE AND WASHINGTON

**Link:** <a href="https://www.pennlive.com/news/2020/10/counterfeit-covid-19-tests-medications-seized-by-customs-officials.html">https://www.pennlive.com/news/2020/10/counterfeit-covid-19-tests-medications-seized-by-customs-officials.html</a>

Seizures of counterfeit items related to the prevention, testing and treatment of COVID-19 continue around the country, including recent hauls from Mid-Atlantic ports, according to the U.S. Customs and Border Control. These seizures have been a part of efforts involving agents and officials at the Area Ports of Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, and the Ports of Harrisburg, Pa., Pittsburgh and Wilmington, De., according to a statement.

## 9. BALTIMORE CUSTOMS AGENTS SEIZE OVER 50K COUNTERFEIT FACE MASKS

Link: https://baltimore.cbslocal.com/2020/10/07/baltimore-customs-agents-seize-over-50k-counterfeit-face-masks/

Nearly 59,000 face masks were seized by Baltimore customs agents because they featured fake, trade-marked logos. That includes several designer brands, sports teams, carmakers and cartoon characters. Altogether, the suggested retail price of these masks is more than \$2.5 million. In the past six weeks, agents have also seized fake COVID-19 medications, tests and antibody test kits at ports all over the Mid-Atlantic.

## 10. CUSTOMS SEIZE \$552K IN FAKE DESIGNER CELLPHONE COVERS, JEWELRY, LUXURY WATCHES IN SAN JUAN

**Link:** <a href="https://newsismybusiness.com/customs-seizes-552k-in-fake-designer-cellphone-covers-jewelry-luxury-watches/">https://newsismybusiness.com/customs-seizes-552k-in-fake-designer-cellphone-covers-jewelry-luxury-watches/</a>

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) San Juan Field Operations announced it seized various courier packages containing counterfeit designer cellphone cases, jewelry and luxury watches sent from Hong Kong. If genuine, the confiscated merchandise would have had an estimated manufacturer's suggested retail price (MSRP) of \$552,157, the agency said. CBP officers discovered the counterfeit goods while conducting an enforcement exam on courier packages in the air cargo facility at the Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport. The seizures included fake luxury watches under the protected brands for Patek Philippe, Ulysse Nardin and Rolex, as well for the "Swiss Made" marking, which is a protected trademark that can only be placed on watches that have been certified by the Federation of the Swiss Watch Industry. The imported jewelry was seized bearing false Tous trademarks.



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