

## **FRAUD WARNING**

### **Beware of attempted frauds misusing the Financial Intelligence Unit-India (FIU-IND's) name and requesting for fees for 'certificates' and other fraudulent services**

It has come to notice that various types of scam emails or letters purporting to be from or associated with the Financial Intelligence Unit-India on Money Laundering and, in some cases, the names or titles of FIU-IND officers have been circulating requesting fees for the transfer of money/ release of consignments etc.

Criminals who fraudulently claim to be from the FIU-IND commonly approach victims with tales of moneys being owed to them by way of a lottery win or an inheritance which will be payable by international transfers of funds. In some cases exorbitant fees have been claimed for providing (i) Anti Terrorist Clearance Certificate, (ii) Money Laundering Clearance Certificate and (iii) Tax Clearance Certificate for release of consignment / parcel etc. To gain access to these funds, victims are asked by criminals (who fraudulently claim to be from the FIU-IND) to pay fees for fictitious services relating to verification of the origin of the funds/ issue of certificates etc. The criminals claim that the funds / consignment will be blocked if the customer fails to pay the fees.

The FIU-IND (and any other similar international body) does not provide any such services nor does it request fees or have the power to block any account or issue any 'certificates' for anti-money laundering or terrorist financing compliance.

FIU-IND is not a law enforcement agency and does not maintain any regional office or employees outside its office at New Delhi, India. Any approach using the FIU-IND's name in relation to payment of fees or release of funds is fraudulent and should be reported to law enforcement authorities in the recipient's home jurisdiction.