



ECONOMIC OFFENCES WING

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PRESS RELEASE

- ***ABSCONDING ACCUSED, WHO IMPERSONATED AS AN OFFICER OF MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE, GOVT. OF INDIA ARRESTED***
- ***AROUND Rs. 15 CRORES WERE DUPED FROM INNOCENT VICTIMS ON THE PRETEXT OF PROVIDING WORK ORDERS FROM MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE.***

BRIEF FACTS:

A complaint was made by Sh. Sunil Kaushik that he has been duped of Rs 4 crore on pretext of providing work orders for transportation of Covid vaccine within different States during Covid pandemic in the year 2021. Four more complaints were received with similar modus operandi. After preliminary enquiry, the case vide FIR No. 56/2022, u/s 420/406/467/468/471/120B IPC & 7 POC Act, was registered and investigation was taken up at EOW. The cheated amount, in aggregate, is more than Rs. 15 crores.

INVESTIGATION:

The investigation has revealed that, in the month of May 2021, alleged persons came in contact with complainants/victims and offered them to arrange work order from Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India for the transportation of Covid vaccine within different States. To gain the trust of the complainants, they took the victims to Nirman Bhawan premises of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Meetings were organized inside the Ministry building and forged work orders of the Ministry were issued for which Rs 15 crores were taken from the complainants.

ARREST:

During the investigation, 08 accused persons, including main kingpin Hermenn Sabherwal, were arrested in the year 2022. Accused, Prafulla Kumar Nayak, was absconding and evading his arrest. Due to strenuous efforts, he was finally arrested on 21.01.2025. He was the person who used to facilitate the entries of accused and victims in Govt. complex i.e., Nirman Bhawan through gratification of certain employees working in the Ministry. Reception officer and two MTS staff of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare were already arrested in this regard. The accused also impersonated himself as an Officer of Ministry. He was also Treasurer in Aarti Education and Healthcare Society, presided by accused Pawan Rai, arrested earlier. The account of the Society was used to siphon off the funds received from victims. Role of other accused persons is under further investigation.

PROFILE:

Sh. Prafulla Kumar Nayak S/o Sh Gananath Nayak R/o Pandav Nagar, Delhi, Age 48 years (permanent resident of Orissa) is a graduate and he has been working as travel agent.

Further Investigation of the case is in progress.

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