

ECONOMIC OFFENCES WING NEW DELHI 30TH MAR, 2024

PRESS RELEASE

- Job fraud racket offering employment in Delhi Metro, busted.
- 4 gang members, including 3 con-women arrested.
- The gang operated a Placement Agency by the name of Digi Recruiters and called over 500 potential victims daily.
- They obtained bulk data of employment seekers on payment from online Job Portals, such as Quikr.
- Called victims to swanky offices in Nehru Place, Kaushambi, etc.
- Cheated large sums in the name of registration, interview, processing, etc., and then stopped communicating.

Brief Facts:

A multi-victim case under sections 420/406/34 IPC, PS EOW, was registered in Economic Offences Wing, Delhi, on complaints of 29 victims in which it was alleged that they were induced and cheated on the pretext of providing them jobs of drivers, guards, field boys in Delhi Metro, Amazon, etc., and the alleged persons had been running their office at Nehru Place, Delhi, since the beginning of 2023, in the name of Digi Recruiters. After operating for 2/3 months, the alleged persons had absconded. They had cheated around Rs. 7.5 lacs from these 29 poor victims.

Investigation Conducted:

The records obtained during investigation revealed that the job fraud gang was using the modus operandi of cheating innocent people by luring them with job offers in prestigious organizations such as Delhi Metro, Amazon, etc. It was also found that the number of likely victims of this fraud gang was much more than the 29 victims who had reported the matter to Police. Records of around 300 victims were found.

Accordingly, a dedicated team comprising of Women Sub-Inspector Seema (I.O. of the case), Insp. Ramkesh, Insp. Neeraj and SI Surjeet, was constituted under the supervision of ACP/EOW, Shri Virender Kadyan, and technical surveillance was mounted on the suspects who were absconding and whose whereabouts were not known. Due to sustained efforts of the team, including discreet field enquiries and data analytics, four persons were identified as key perpetrators of this job fraud. It was also found that these culprits have changed their location from Nehru Place area and were now operating from Kaushambi, Ghaziabad, UP, with the same modus operandi. These four job fraud gang members were identified and apprehended from different locations:

- 1. Ms. Nikita Thakur, r/o Delhi. Age- 32 yrs.
- 2. Ms. Yogita @ Yashika, r/o Delhi. Age -29 yrs.
- 3. Ms. Hemlata, r/o Delhi. Age -38 yrs.
- 4. Mohd Asad, r/o Delhi. Age-22 yrs

During investigation, several incriminating documents have been recovered at their instance. It was found that they sourced the details of potential victims from a popular online job portal/App, Quikr. Using the bulk data of employment seekers, the gang had called over 80,000 potential victims.

Scrutiny of the WhatsApp chats of the gang members shows that of-late, they have been increasingly getting frustrated by low conversion of their calls to potential victims into 'Walk-Ins', i.e., victim coming to their 'offices' for registration, interview, etc. During interrogation, they attributed this low conversion to people becoming more aware of such frauds due to wide news coverage of such reported frauds and also due to online campaigns, esp. by social media influencers on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, etc.

Further investigation is in progress.

Advisory for Citizens:

Citizens, esp. job/employment seekers are advised to be more careful while attending calls from placement agencies. The credentials of the placement agency shall be checked before making any payment of registration fee, etc. The details of job being offered must be independently checked from the website of the organization offering the jobs, or by corresponding with it over official email.

DCP/EOW