ITEM NO.7 COURT NO.2 SECTION X

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

SUO MOTO WRIT PETITION (CRIMINAL) No(s).3/2025

IN RE: VICTIMS OF DIGITAL ARREST RELATED TO FORGED DOCUMENTS

Date : 17-10-2025 This petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SURYA KANT
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JOYMALYA BAGCHI

For Petitioner(s) : By Courts Motion, AOR

For Respondent(s) :

O R D E R

1. The instant *suo motu* writ petition has arisen out of a complaint dated 21.09.2025 received by this Court from a senior citizen couple, who have been defrauded of their life savings through a "digital arrest" scam perpetrated between 03.09.2025 and 16.09.2025. The victims have alleged that they were contacted by persons impersonating CBI officers, ED officials and judicial authorities through telephone and video calls. The fraudsters displayed forged orders of the Supreme Court through WhatsApp and video conferencing. Under threat of arrest and property seizure, based upon those forged documents, the victims were coerced to transfer Rs.1,05,50,000 through multiple bank transactions.

2. The complainants have fairly disclosed that two FIRs bearing No.76/2025 and No.77/2025 have been registered at the Cyber Crime Branch, Ambala under Sections 127(2), 308(2), 318(4), 336(3), 338, 340(2) and 61(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, indicating a pattern of organized criminal activity targeting senior citizens.

Signature Not Verified
Digitally signed by
ARJUN BISHT
Date: 2025.10.17
15:02:14 IST
Reason:

3. Ordinarily we would have directed the State Police to expedite the investigation and take it to a logical conclusion. We are, however, aghast at the fact that the fraudsters have fabricated judicial orders in the name of the Supreme Court of India and various other documents, including:

i) **A "Freeze Order" dated 03.09.2025 bearing reference number F.No. EC/IRA/BZO-I/02/2025, purportedly issued under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002;**

ii) **An "Arrest Order" dated 03.09.2025 bearing the stamp and designation of an officer of the Directorate of Enforcements, Mumbai along with another Court stamp;**

iii) **A "Surveillance Order" with forged judicial signatures; and**

iv) **Various fictitious proceedings before the Bombay High Court and false claims of investigation by CBI and Enforcement Directorate.**

4. The forgery of documents and the brazen criminal misuse of the name, seal, and judicial authority of this Court or a High Court is a matter of grave concern. The fabrication of judicial orders bearing forged signatures of Judges strikes at the very foundation of public trust in the judicial system, besides the rule of law. Such acts constitute a direct assault on the dignity and majesty of this institution, therefore, such grave criminal acts cannot be treated as ordinary or routine offences of cheating or cybercrime.

5. We are also inclined to take judicial notice of the fact that

the instant case is not a solitary instance. It has been reported many times in responsible media reports that such like occurrences have happened in the past in different parts of the country. We are, therefore of the *prima facie* view that a stern action on Pan India basis with coordinated efforts between the Central and State Police are required to unearth the full extent of this criminal enterprise involving forgery of judicial documents, cyber extortion and cyber arrest of the innocent people, especially the senior citizens.

6. We, therefore, deem it appropriate to issue notice to:

i) **Union of India through the Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs;**
ii) **Central Bureau of Investigation through its Director;**
iii) **State of Haryana through its Principal Secretary, Department of Home; and**
iv) **Superintendent of Police, Cyber Crime, Ambala.**

7. Having regard to the manner in which similar crimes are being committed, we request the learned Attorney General for India to assist the Court.

8. The Registry is directed to forward a complete set of the complaint along with the documents received to the noticees and also forward a complete set to the office of the Learned Attorney General for India.

9. The Superintendent of Police, Cyber Crime, Ambala is directed to file the status report of the investigation that has taken place so far.

10. Post the matter on 27.10.2025.

(ARJUN BISHT)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(PREETHI T.C.)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR