



POLICE COMMISSIONERATE
BHUBANESWAR-CUTTACK

Advisory on "DIGITAL ARREST"

It has come to our notice that many Intellectuals/ Intelligentsias across organizations and departments are falling prey to Digital Arrest. Fraudsters, impersonating senior police officials, have cheated victims and misappropriated their hard-earned money under the following pretexts: -

1. Scammers impersonate officials from FedEx, Customs, CBI, ED, TRAI, or Police, alleging that a parcel in the victim's name contains narcotics, fake passports, illegal currency, or weapons.
2. Fraudsters claim the victim's mobile number is linked to illegal messages, financial fraud, money laundering, or SIM misuse, and threaten immediate disconnection unless they cooperate.
3. Victims are told their Aadhaar has been misused, multiple SIM cards issued in their name, and KYC details exploited for criminal transactions.
4. Fraudsters inform victims that their son/daughter has been arrested in such cases and demand cooperation in the investigation.

Fraudsters circulate forged FIRs, arrest warrants, court notices, summons, confidential investigation letters, and account-freezing orders. Victims are coerced into remaining on continuous video calls, barred from contacting family members, and pressured to transfer their savings into so-called "Government Reserve Accounts" or deposit funds into "Verification Accounts," all under strict instructions to maintain secrecy.

"DIGITAL ARREST is a SCAM"

- There is **no legal provision** for "Digital Arrest" in India.
- Police or law enforcement agencies **never arrest people via video calls or messages**.
- No investigating agency will ever ask you to join **Skype or similar platforms** for investigation or arrest.
- **Disconnect** suspicious calls immediately.
- Do not **transfer money, liquidate FDs/PPFs, or follow banking instructions** from unknown callers.
- Never share **OTPs, PINs, passwords, or banking credentials**.
- Consult your **family members**.
- Report incidents immediately by calling **1930** (National Cyber Crime Helpline), filing a complaint at **www.cybercrime.gov.in**, or visiting the nearest Cyber Crime & Economic Offences Police Station.

Helpline Numbers

Bhubaneswar CC & EO PS: 7440006709

Cuttack CC & EO PS: 8280405695

Commissioner of Police
Bhubaneswar-Cuttack