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DO YOU KNOW?

DIGITAL ARREST SCAMS – SC GIVES CBI A FREE HAND

The Supreme Court has given the CBI a nationwide mandate to investigate—and shut down—these crimes.



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WHAT'S A “DIGITAL ARREST” SCAM?

- Fraudsters call or video chat, pretending to be police, income tax, CBI, or court officials. They:
 - Show forged notices and fake arrest warrants
 - Threaten immediate custody
 - Force you to stay on the call while transferring money
 - Direct funds to "safe" accounts (which they control)
- **Real Example:** *“Hello, sir, this is CBI. You have illegal transactions. Transfer ₹5 lakhs to this account NOW or face arrest.”*






SENIOR CITIZENS ARE THE PRIMARY TARGETS

- While anyone can fall victim, scammers specifically target:
 - Seniors who trust authority
 - People unfamiliar with digital verification
 - Those with savings to extort
- **The Fear Factor:** Criminals exploit the psychology of arrest—urgency + authority + shame = compliance.






SC'S BOLD DIRECTIONS TO CBI, BANKS & PLATFORMS

- The Supreme Court didn't just hand the case to CBI; it transformed the entire system:
 -  **CBI:** Pan-India unified probe + power to investigate bankers under Prevention of Corruption Act.
 -  **States:** Must grant consent for CBI investigations (no more turf wars).
 -  **Interpol:** CBI to trace foreign scam hubs.







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-  **RBI:** Use AI/ML to auto-flag “mule accounts” and freeze suspicious funds
-  **Telecom:** Tighten KYC; stop mass SIM issuance on the same identity
-  **IT Platforms:** Preserve device & account data; give full technical support to CBI



HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF?

- **Police, courts, and tax officials will NEVER:**
 -  Call you demanding money via video chat
 -  Ask you to transfer funds to “safe accounts”
 -  Threaten arrest without formal written summons
 -  Keep you on continuous video calls



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- **If you receive such a call:**
 - Stay calm. Hang up.
 - Call your bank directly (not the number given by the caller).
 - Verify any order through official channels.
 - Report immediately to 1930 or [cybercrime.gov.in](https://www.cybercrime.gov.in).
 - Preserve all evidence (screenshots, call logs, recordings).



A WATERSHED MOMENT FOR CYBER LAW IN INDIA

- **This SC order is historic because it:**
 - ♦ Treats digital fraud as an attack on public trust & the justice system itself
 - ♦ Creates a coordinated, tech-driven response (CBI + RBI + telecom + platforms + I4C cyber centres)
 - ♦ Holds banks, telecom, and tech companies accountable for enabling scams
 - ♦ Empowers the CBI to operate pan-India without state-level obstruction



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- **The Bottom Line:** The Court recognises that modern cyber fraud requires modern, integrated enforcement.
- **Legal Angle:** This judgment sets a precedent for how courts can direct multi-sector coordination in cyber crimes.



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