Beware of Fictitious Mails offering Money

Fraudulent offers of huge money in foreign exchange are being made through letters/e-mails by certain foreign entities or individuals, including Indian residents acting as representatives of such entities or individuals. The offer of huge money in foreign currency are made to resident individuals/entities (including schools/hospitals) on the pretext of helping them in their business/ventures in India. Once the contact is established, the entities request for details of bank account of the individuals or Indian entity and ask for some amount to be remitted to them as initial deposit/commission so that the offer money could be transferred. Even copies of fake certificates or deposit receipts purported to have been issued by the Reserve Bank of India are produced by such operators.

The Reserve Bank of India has cautioned members of public:

- Not to fall prey to fictitious offers of winnings in lottery coming through e-mails, post or courier, etc.
- Not to make any payment or remittance towards participation in such schemes/offers from unknown entities
- That remittance in any form towards participation in lottery schemes is prohibited under Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999; and that
- The Reserve Bank of India does not maintain any account in the name of individuals/companies/trusts in India to hold Funds for disbursal.

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