

Advisory for Indian Companies on Fraudulent Activities involving import of Scrap Metal from Kenya

It has been brought to the notice of the High Commission of India in Nairobi that multiple cases of fraud have taken place in recent months, wherein Indian companies have paid money for the import of scrap metal especially aluminium UBC (used beverage cans) and aluminium wire scrap to the Kenyan companies but never received the goods. Indian companies are advised to exercise extreme caution when dealing with such offers, particularly those involving international transactions and advance payments.

2. These fraudulent activities typically involve individuals approaching Indian Companies and requesting them to visit Kenya and do a site visit at scrap metal warehouses before making an advance payment. The perpetrators establish credibility through formal-looking documentation, well established company websites and photos of warehouses showing storage of the goods. During the visit, the representatives of Indian companies are shown warehouses where the goods are kept and an advance payment is done at that point, some times, loading starts immediately. Upon receiving the advance payment, the Indian buyer is promised that the goods will be shipped at the earliest, mostly within a week. However, it turns out that it is pure fraud, many excuses like issues with Kenyan regulatory authorities for clearance of scrap metal shipment and more money is asked at this point. After some time, the perpetrators become unresponsive, no response to calls or emails, and if they do, they only ask for more money.

3. Below is a list of Kenyan companies that have been reported by Indian Companies for being involved in such fraudulent activities:

- i. Sheeghr Investments Ltd., Kenya
- ii. Neuf Technology Limited, Kenya
- iii. Outright Metal Limited, Kenya
- iv. Ameer Recycles Limited, Kenya
- v. Shariq Haneef Group of Companies, Kenya
- vi. Time Frame Logistics, Kenya
- vii. Scrum Trading Company Limited, Kenya
- viii. Golden Eagle Signs Ltd., Nairobi
- ix. Nyangumi Prime Merchants, Nairobi

4. Given the increasing number of such cases, Indian companies are strongly advised to:

- (a) Confirm the veracity of all such offers through the Scrap Metal Council of Kenya [Email: info@scrapmetalcouncil.go.ke]
- (b) Conduct due diligence to establish credibility of any individuals or organizations involved.
- (c) Avoid making any payments without confirmed authentication. □
- (d) Check the guidelines provided at the Government of Kenya sites on export of scrap metals from Kenya.
- (e) Reach out to High Commission, if required.
