

Subject: FRAUD BY TURKISH COMPANY TO INDIAN EXPORTERS



फेडरेशन ऑफ इंडियन एक्सपोर्ट आर्गनाइजेशन्स
(वाणिज्य मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार द्वारा स्थापित)
FEDERATION OF INDIAN EXPORT ORGANISATIONS
(SET UP BY MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA)



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To,
SMT RUPALI DATTA
EXPORTS DIVISION
TEA BOARD

FIEO/MRD/Misc/2010-11March 25, 2010

Dear Member,

We have been informed by the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India regarding a warning issued by Embassy of India, Ankara, Turkey for the fraud being done by a Turkish Company M/s HIM Import & Export Co. Ltd, Turkey. A Letter received regarding the matter from the Indian Embassy in Ankara (Turkey) is enclosed for ready reference.

As advised by the Embassy, members of the trade are requested not enter into any business transactions with this company.

With regards,

Yours sincerely

Sd/-

Vinod Pal
Director

Enclosure:

Ms. Sangeeta Godbole,
Director,
Department of Commerce,
New Delhi

Dear Ms. Godbole,

A Turkish company with registered name HIM Import & Export Co. Ltd. with its address in Gaziantep, Turkey has come to our adverse notice. It has already cheated two Indian companies so far. It had signed import contracts for purchase of sesame seed and black pepper from India.

The modus operandi in both these cases are similar - one Mr. Mehmet Gungen sends purchase order to the unsuspecting Indian companies giving details of their bank – Credit Union Factoring – Gaziantep Branch, Turkey with its swift code (CUFATRISXXX) etc. The Indian companies send in the export documents to the Credit Union Factoring, not understanding that it is not a bank. This is a company set up by the owners of HIM Import & Export Co. Ltd. for cheating foreign companies. Once the documents would arrive in their hands, they would get the consignment released. Another Indian company, who was approached by the above Turkish company, contacted us before entering into a contract with them. We advised them of the low capital base of the company as well as their Credit Union Factoring not being a bank. They heeded to our suggestion and did not sign any contract.

Therefore, I would advice that all the important chambers of commerce in India are requested that their members may be informed about the above fraudulent Turkish company and do not enter into business deals with them. All of them should also be asked to be careful if the bank is situated in Northern Cyprus or so called “Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC)”. We do not recognise “TRNC”.

In the above two cases, we have informed the Turkish government and the chamber of commerce in Gaziantep with a request to take appropriate action. Needless to say that the telephone numbers given by the HIM Import & Export Co. Ltd. and Credit Union Factoring are no more functional and the person picking up the phone does not even recognise such companies or persons.

I hope this timely information will be able to save some other Indian businessmen before they too are trapped.

Best regards,

S K Verma
Minister,
Embassy of India
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