Bihar Police Flag 1.09 Lakh Mule Accounts in Rs 72.53 Crore Cyber-Fraud Trail

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15 November 2026: Bihar Police have identified 1,09,475 mule bank accounts across 38 districts, through which around Rs 72.53 crore of cyber-fraud money was routed. Patna alone accounts for 14,644 such accounts. The findings come from the state police's Cyber Prahar 5.0 drive, based on September-October data.

The findings: key numbers

Scale: 1,09,475 mule accounts identified in 38 districts of Bihar; about Rs 72.53 crore moved through them.

Hotspot: Patna district tops with 14,644 accounts.

Drive: Cyber Prahar 5.0 - Bihar Police's special campaign against cyber fraud; figures cover September-October.

What are mule accounts?

Definition: Bank accounts opened in someone else's name (or rented from real holders) that cyber criminals use to receive and layer defrauded money, making the trail hard to track.

How they operate: Fraud proceeds are quickly split across many mule accounts, withdrawn in cash or converted to crypto - a classic money-laundering "layering" technique.

Legal side: Account holders who rent out their accounts can face action under the BNS/IT Act and the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002.

Institutional response: Banks use RBI-mandated fraud-monitoring; the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) and the 1930 helpline handle citizen reporting.

Quiz: Test your knowledge

Q1: Bihar Police's campaign against cyber fraud that uncovered over one lakh mule accounts is called:

(a) Cyber Suraksha(b) Cyber Prahar 5.0(c) Operation Shield(d) Cyber Kavach

Answer and explanation: (b) Cyber Prahar 5.0 - it identified 1,09,475 mule accounts across 38 districts, with Rs 72.53 crore routed through them.

Q2: The national helpline number for reporting cyber fraud is:

(a) 1091(b) 112(c) 1930(d) 1098

Answer and explanation: (c) 1930 - the national cyber fraud reporting helpline run with the I4C; 1098 is Childline.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

In short: Bihar Police identified 1,09,475 mule accounts in 38 districts under Cyber Prahar 5.0; Rs 72.53 crore of fraud money passed through them; Patna tops with 14,644.

Question: What is a mule bank account?

An account opened in another person's name, or rented from a real holder, used by cyber criminals to receive and layer defrauded money so the trail is hard to follow.

Question: How many mule accounts did Bihar Police find?

1,09,475 accounts across 38 districts, with about Rs 72.53 crore routed through them; Patna alone had 14,644.

Question: What is the I4C?

The Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre - under the Ministry of Home Affairs, it coordinates the national response to cyber crime, including the 1930 helpline and the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal.

Sources:

https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/bihar/bihar-police-identify-over-one-lakh-mule-accounts-across-38-districts/article71701654.ece