

Press Release

Public Advisory: Safeguard Yourself Against Online Scams & Frauds

- 1. IFSCA being a unified financial sector regulator, while introducing many new financial products and services in the IFSC, is also conscious of its duty to protect the interests of consumers availing services in the IFSC. The increasing popularity and widespread adoption of social media (such as Whatsapp, X, LinkedIn, Telegram, Youtube etc.) have significantly transformed the way retail consumers connect and share information. While these platforms offer numerous benefits, such platforms can be misused by unscrupulous entities for fraudulent activities and misleading financial consumers.
- 2. The financial sector regulators across the world are facing similar challenges. IOSCO also has on May 21, 2025 issued a statement on 'Combatting online harm and the role of platform providers' and has called upon Platform Providers to join this urgent effort to combat online harm and to thwart their services from being misused to conduct fraud.
- 3. Financial consumers in the IFSC are therefore advised to exercise caution, remain vigilant and follow the below mentioned guidelines to protect themselves from scams and frauds:

a) Unsolicited Offers

Be cautious when receiving unsolicited messages or investment offers related to GIFT IFSC, especially those claiming to provide exclusive or unrealistic high-return opportunities with minimal risk.

b) Fake Identities

Scammers may impersonate IFSCA officials, senior executives of financial entities, or celebrities to gain public trust. They may create fake profiles, spoof email addresses, and use AI-generated testimonials or deepfakes to mislead investors.

Always verify whether the entity offering financial products or services in the IFSC is registered, authorised, or licensed with the IFSCA in the directory available on the IFSCA website: https://ifsca.gov.in/Directory.

The names and contact details of IFSCA officials are available on the website of IFSCA. In case of doubt, please verify the identity using the link:

https://ifsca.gov.in/Pages/Contents/Management-Team

Further, it may be noted that all official communications from IFSCA are issued through official email IDs with domain address **@ifsca.gov.in**.

c) Conduct Due Diligence

Always seek detailed information about any financial product or service before investing or entering into any transaction relating to GIFT IFSC. Review all relevant documents, terms and conditions carefully and be fully aware of the risks involved.

d) Report suspicious activities

As a responsible financial consumer, in case of any suspicious or unregulated financial activities relating to the IFSC, the same may be promptly reported to the Division of Consumer Education and Protection, IFSCA.

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(A Consumer Education and Protection Initiative by IFSCA)

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