

Extract from FIU India – Web Site - fiuindia.gov.in (The web site is comprehensive. Please study)

Suspicious Transaction Reports

Every banking company, financial institution and intermediary shall furnish to FIU-IND information of all suspicious transactions whether or not made in cash.

Suspicious transaction means a transaction whether or not made in cash which, to a person acting in good faith -

- a. gives rise to a reasonable ground of suspicion that it may involve the proceeds of crime; or
- b. appears to be made in circumstances of unusual or unjustified complexity; or
- c. appears to have no economic rationale or bonafide purpose; or
- d. gives rise to a reasonable ground of suspicion that it may involve financing of the activities relating to terrorism;*

Broad categories of reason for suspicion and examples of suspicious transactions for a banking company:

Identity of client

- False identification documents
- Identification documents which could not be verified within reasonable time
- Accounts opened with names very close to other established business entities

Background of client

- Suspicious background or links with known criminals

Multiple accounts

- Large number of accounts having a common account holder, introducer or authorized signatory with no rationale
- Unexplained transfers between multiple accounts with no rationale

Activity in accounts

- Unusual activity compared with past transactions
- Sudden activity in dormant accounts
- Activity inconsistent with what would be expected from declared business

Nature of transactions

- Unusual or unjustified complexity
- No economic rationale or bonafide purpose
- Frequent purchases of drafts or other negotiable instruments with cash
- Nature of transactions inconsistent with what would be expected from declared business

Value of transactions

- Value just under the reporting threshold amount in an apparent attempt to avoid reporting
- Value inconsistent with the client's apparent financial standing

Broad categories of reason for suspicion and examples of suspicious transactions for an intermediary:

Identity of Client

- False identification documents
- Identification documents which could not be verified within reasonable time
- Non-face to face client
- Doubt over the real beneficiary of the account
- Accounts opened with names very close to other established business entities

Suspicious Background

- Suspicious background or links with known criminals

Multiple Accounts

- Large number of accounts having a common account holder, introducer or authorized signatory with no rationale
- Unexplained transfers between multiple accounts with no rationale

Activity in Accounts

- Unusual activity compared to past transactions
- Use of different accounts by client alternatively
- Sudden activity in dormant accounts
- Activity inconsistent with what would be expected from declared business
- Account used for circular trading

Nature of Transactions

- Unusual or unjustified complexity
- No economic rationale or bonafide purpose
- Source of funds are doubtful
- Appears to be case of insider trading
- Investment proceeds transferred to a third party
- Transactions reflect likely market manipulations
- Suspicious off market transactions

Value of Transactions

- Value just under the reporting threshold amount in an apparent attempt to avoid reporting
- Large sums being transferred from overseas for making payments
- Inconsistent with the clients apparent financial standing
- Inconsistency in the payment pattern by client
- Block deal which is not at market price or prices appear to be artificially inflated/deflated