



National Investigation Agency

Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India



NIA Press Release

NIA Mumbai Spl Court Sentences 3 Accused to RI in Sahar Fake Currency Smuggling Case

New Delhi, 14th August 2025

Three accused have been convicted and sentenced to rigorous imprisonment (RI) by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) Special Court, Mumbai, in the 2020 Sahar fake currency case involving smuggling of high-quality counterfeit notes from Malaysia into India.

Danish Haji Mohammed Petiwala and Sarasvati Dattaram @ Muskan have been sentenced to 5 years, 6 months, and 2 days of RI and a fine of ₹6,000 each. J Kaleel Rahman will undergo RI of 5 years, 5 months and 18 days, along with a fine of ₹5,000, as per the orders of the special court, which held all three guilty under various provisions of IPC and UA(P) Act.

The case emanated from information received by the Customs Department, Mumbai regarding the import of a parcel from Malaysia containing Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICNs) of a total face value of ₹68,000 (₹2,000 × 34 notes). The parcel was addressed to one Sangita Kapoor at her Goregaon (West), Mumbai, address.

Investigations revealed the involvement of Danish Haji, a resident of Mahim, Mumbai, and his girlfriend Sarasvati, along with a Malaysian resident, Amir Mirza @ Rafiq Shaikh - a wanted absconded against whom a non bailable warrant was also issued in September 2020. Customs officials also recovered one FICN from Hotel Adya International, Andheri East, where Danish and Sarasvati had stayed prior to their arrest.

After taking over the case, which exposed the use of banking channels and postal services to transfer FICNs in exchange of genuine currency, NIA found that Danish and Sarasvati had conspired with Amir and Kalil to smuggle high-quality counterfeit currency from Malaysia to India, with the intent of destabilising the latter's financial system.