

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 9, 2026

The Honorable Howard Lutnick
Secretary of Commerce
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Lutnick:

We write to request that you take action against foreign mercenary hackers who have targeted and stolen data from thousands of Americans and U.S. companies. These hackers are also actively weaponizing foreign legal systems to chill the speech of American journalists and U.S. technology companies.

Several India-based cyber-mercenary groups have spent more than fifteen years conducting targeted espionage against U.S. citizens, businesses and the lawyers representing them. Compounding this security threat, these cyber mercenaries and their associates have engaged in an aggressive campaign of global lawfare to censor investigative reporting by prominent American media organizations. This coordinated effort effectively allows foreign entities to use foreign courts to keep the American public in the dark about cyber threats to their own country and undermines the fundamental constitutional rights of U.S. citizens.

These hackers have systematically subverted the U.S. legal and financial sectors, targeting private equity firms, pharmaceutical companies, and more than 1,000 attorneys across major U.S. law firms to manipulate ongoing litigation. The threat is further heightened by evidence that these groups have operated at the behest of the Qatari government, targeting opponents of Qatar's World Cup bid and even the family of a former Republican Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. While one of these operatives has been indicted by the Department of Justice, the foreign hackers continue to operate with impunity.

Simultaneously, these actors have mounted an aggressive censorship campaign to suppress public awareness of their illicit activities, directly threatening American free speech and press freedom. Executives connected to one hack-for-hire group secured an Indian court order enforcing a global takedown of an investigative report by Reuters, including a copy of the report hosted by the Internet Archive. To force further censorship, these foreign hackers have launched ongoing lawsuits against major American media institutions and technology companies, including Google, Meta, Microsoft, and The New Yorker.

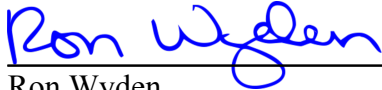
The United States cannot allow mercenary hackers to target Americans and undermine our legal system nor stand by as foreign nationals weaponize foreign judicial systems to enforce censorship within our borders. To hold these illicit actors accountable, we request that the Commerce Department's Bureau of Industry and Security add the following companies—identified by Reuters and Citizen Lab as the perpetrators of the hacking operations outlined above—to the Entity List to cut off their access to American software, cloud infrastructure, and cybersecurity tools:

- Sunkissed Organic Farms Pvt. Ltd. (formerly known as “Appin Technology Pvt. Ltd.”) and its subsidiaries, including:

- Adaptive Control Security Global Corporate Pvt. Ltd. (formerly known as “Appin Software Security Pvt. Ltd.” or “Appin Security Group”)
- ABP Holdings Pvt. Ltd. (formerly known as “KGW Appin Knowledge Solutions Pvt. Ltd.”)
- BellTroX Pvt. Ltd.
- CyberRoot Pvt. Ltd.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Pat Harrigan
Member of Congress



Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator