



PRESS RELEASE
27.03.2026

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Ranchi Zonal Office, has filed a Prosecution Complaint (PC) on **26.03.2026** under Section 45 read with Section 44 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, before the Hon'ble Special Judge, CBI-cum-Special Judge under PMLA, Ranchi, against two accused persons — **Manoj Kumar**, former Branch Manager (Scale-II Officer), State Bank of India, and **Smt. Nitu Kumari alias Nitu Devi**, his wife — for commission of the offence of money laundering under the PMLA, 2002.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of multiple FIRs registered by the CBI, Anti-Corruption Branch (ACB), Dhanbad, and Shikaripara Police Station, Dumka, against Manoj Kumar for criminal conspiracy, cheating, criminal breach of trust, and criminal misconduct under the IPC, 1860, the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, and the Information Technology Act, 2000. The predicate offences pertain to systematic banking fraud committed by Manoj Kumar while serving as Branch Manager at five branches of the State Bank of India during the period January 2013 to September 2020, including at Phulbanga, Sahebganj, PBB Sahebganj, Barhait Bazar, and Shikaripara branches. Additionally, a separate FIR was registered against him for possession of Disproportionate Assets to the tune of Rs. 1.24 Crore (approx.) during the check period 01.01.2014 to 11.01.2024.

ED investigation established that Shri Manoj Kumar generated Proceeds of Crime totalling **Rs. 5.40 Crore (approx.)** through (i) unauthorized debit transactions across four SBI branches, causing wrongful loss of Rs. 2.48 Crore (approx.) at Phulbanga, Sahebganj, PBB Sahebganj, and Barhait Bazar branches combined, and Rs. 89.90 Lakh (approx.) at Barhait Bazar branch; and (ii) systematic fraudulent manipulation of **440 customer accounts** at the Shikaripara branch of SBI, including KCC loan accounts, pension accounts, savings accounts, and cash credit accounts, thereby causing a wrongful loss of Rs. 1.05 Crore (approx.). The said Proceeds of Crime were concealed, possessed, acquired, and projected as untainted property through a network of family accounts, accounts of associates, and shell NGOs, and were ultimately integrated into immovable properties. Smt. Nitu Kumari alias Nitu Devi, wife of the principal accused, being a housewife with no independent source of income, knowingly permitted her bank account to be used as a primary conduit for the layering of Proceeds of Crime, and the residential property at Sagar Colony, Sahebganj was constructed in her name using Proceeds of Crime routed through her account and through the account of her brother. Further, cash of Rs. 10 Lakh was recovered from her possession during the course of search conducted by the CBI on 11.01.2024.



In the course of investigation, the ED provisionally attached immovable properties worth **Rs. 97.92 Lakh (approx.)** vide Provisional Attachment Order (PAO) dated 17.03.2026 under Section 5 of the PMLA, 2002. The attached properties comprise (i) a residential house constructed on 5 Kattha land at Sagar Colony, Bada Lohanda, Sahebganj, Jharkhand, standing in the name of Smt. Nitu Kumari, valued at Rs. 45.75 Lakh (approx.); and (ii) Flat No. B-1 & C-1, Subodh Palace, Shivpuram, Bailey Road, Rukanpura, Patna, Bihar, standing in the name of Manoj Kumar, valued at Rs. 52.17 Lakh (approx.). The said PAO is pending confirmation before the Hon'ble Adjudicating Authority (PMLA).

The matter is pending trial before the Hon'ble Special Court.

Further investigation is under progress.