



PRESS RELEASE

13/03/2026

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Mumbai Zonal Office has arrested Sudhir Dalsukhbhai Kotadiya and Umang Santibhai Kotadiya on 11.03.2026 under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 in connection with a money laundering investigation relating to a fraudulent digital investment scheme operated through M/s QFON App Limited and other associated entities. The accused persons were produced before the Ld. Special Court (PMLA), Mumbai, and the Ld. Court granted ED custody till 20.03.2026 (8 days) for further investigation under PMLA.

The arrest has been made pursuant to a money laundering investigation initiated on the basis of FIR No. 1232/2024 dated 28.12.2024 registered at Vartak Nagar Police Station, Thane City, Maharashtra, under various sections of IPC, 1860 and Section 3 of the MPID Act, 1999, against Sudhir Kotadiya, Jaysukh Sakhariya, Umang Kotadiya and others for operating a digital Ponzi investment scheme.

ED investigation revealed that the accused persons lured innocent investors from Gujarat and Maharashtra to invest funds in the said scheme by promising exorbitant returns ranging from 2% to 10.5%, on the pretext of generating revenue through online advertisement viewing and application-based digital activities. Investigation further revealed that funds collected from new investors were used to pay returns to earlier investors while a substantial portion of the funds was siphoned off by the accused persons. The investor funds were routed through multiple bank accounts of firms, entities and individuals associated with the accused persons and were also transferred in cash through Angadiya operators. Investigation so far has revealed that Proceeds of Crime (POC) amounting to approx. Rs. 183 Crore have been generated through the said fraudulent scheme.

Further investigation revealed that the accused persons were absconding in the predicate offence as well as in the PMLA investigation and were deliberately evading investigation. It was also revealed that the accused persons had absconded to Dubai (UAE) and later returned to India through the Nepal route. After sustained efforts and intelligence-based tracking, ED was able to trace and apprehend the accused persons, leading to their arrest on 11.03.2026.



Flow Chart Depicting the Modus Operandi and Apprehension of the accused:



Earlier, ED had conducted search operations at multiple locations, which resulted in the recovery of incriminating documents, digital devices and financial records and seizure of cash amounting to Rs. 2.51 Crore.

Further investigation is under progress.