



PRESS RELEASE

28-03-2026

ED provisionally attaches properties worth Rs. 2.37 Crore in Trans-Arunachal Highway (TAH) land acquisition compensation scam

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Itanagar Sub-Zonal Office has provisionally attached properties valued at approximately Rs. 2.37 Crore under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, in connection with the Trans-Arunachal Highway (TAH) land acquisition compensation scam. The attachment has been made vide Provisional Attachment Order dated 23.03.2026 issued under Section 5(1) of the PMLA. The attached properties include land measuring 47,350 sq. mtrs. situated at Dolo Village, Nyapin, Kurung Kumey District, Arunachal Pradesh, held in the name of Tadar Babin, and a traditional house situated at Village Jath, Yachuli, District Keyi Panyor, Arunachal Pradesh, held in the name of Likha Maj, representing Proceeds of Crime / value thereof derived from fraudulent diversion of Government compensation funds.

The investigation pertains to large-scale irregularities in assessment and disbursement of land acquisition compensation under the Trans-Arunachal Highway (TAH) Project (Potin–Bopi stretch). Findings of the Fact-Finding Committee (FFC) have revealed that against admissible compensation, excess payments amounting to approximately Rs. 44.98 Crore were made, resulting in substantial wrongful loss to the Government exchequer. Investigation has revealed the involvement of several public servants and private persons in a well-organized conspiracy, including Kemo Lollen, the then Deputy Commissioner, Ziro, who, as a joint signatory to the compensation account, played a key role in authorizing and facilitating fraudulent disbursements; Bharat Lingu, the then District Land Revenue & Settlement Officer (DLRSO), Ziro, who processed and approved manipulated compensation claims; Toko Taje, Junior Engineer and member of the Structural Assessment Team, who facilitated preparation of inflated and fictitious structural assessments; Toko Tath, who assisted in enabling fraudulent inclusion of beneficiaries; and Kabak Bhatt, Junior Engineer, who facilitated diversion and layering of funds through intermediary entities. Further, Likha Maj and Tadar Babin, shown as beneficiaries, received substantial amounts of

compensation without lawful entitlement and knowingly participated in routing, withdrawal and utilization of such funds, thereby aiding in concealment and projection of Proceeds of Crime as untainted property.

Earlier, ED had conducted search operations on 06.02.2026 at multiple premises across Arunachal Pradesh and Assam, which resulted in seizure of cash amounting to Rs. 2.40 Crore from Likha Maj and Rs. 22 Lakh from Tadar Babin, freezing of bank balances of approximately Rs. 1.19 Crore and recovery of incriminating documents and digital evidence. Prior to this, ED had also identified and frozen funds amounting to approximately Rs. 3.95 Crore in bank accounts and deposits linked to the accused persons. Thus, the total value of Proceeds of Crime secured in the present case through attachment, seizure and freezing till date amounts to approximately **Rs.10.13 Crore**.

ED had earlier filed a Prosecution Complaint on 12.03.2024 before the Hon'ble Special Court (PMLA), Yupia against Kabak Bhatt, and the Hon'ble Court has taken cognizance of the same on 14.03.2024. Subsequent investigation has led to identification of additional proceeds of crime and involvement of further accused persons, resulting in the present attachment to secure equivalent value of Proceeds of Crime for eventual confiscation under the provisions of the PMLA.

Further investigation is under progress.