



Press Release
16.03.2026

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Imphal Sub-Zonal Office has issued the 3rd Provisional Attachment Order (PAO), attaching properties to the tune of Rs. 50.80 Crore pertaining to Salai Group of Companies, SMART Society and associated entities. The attached properties include balances lying in bank accounts as well as immovable and movable assets held in the name of various companies of the Salai Group. These assets comprise land and buildings along with industrial and commercial units such as a rice mill, flour mill, edible oil refinery, mushroom plant, emu farms, fish farm and gym equipment.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of an FIR registered by Manipur Police at Lamphel Police Station, District Imphal West, Manipur under various sections of IPC, 1860 against Yambem Biren, self-styled "Chief Minister of Manipur State Council." and Narengbam Samarjit, self-styled "External Affairs & Defence Minister of Manipur State Council." for their prejudicial activities like waging war against the state, sedition, promoting disharmony, enmity or feeling of hatred among different groups etc. by declaring independence of Manipur state from the Union of India. The NIA charge-sheeted N Samarjit Singh, Y. Biren, and others under IPC sections 120B, 420, and UAPA sections 13 & 17, revealing that the accused fraudulently collected public money through the Salai Group and its affiliate SMART Society by promising 36% annual returns without any legal authority or license. They laundered these funds through 19 Group Companies and used the money for unlawful activities, including secessionist operations.

The Salai Financial Services (SAFFINS) was registered under the Bombay Money Lenders Act, it was authorized only to lend money and not to accept deposits. However, the accused allegedly misused this registration to collect deposits from the public and operated like a bank/NBFC without RBI authorization. The funds collected were routed through accounts of directors and Salai Group companies and laundered through business investments and properties.

Subsequently, the CBI registered FIR No. RC2192023E0004 dated 15.03.2023 under Sections 120B and 420 of IPC, 1860 and provisions of the Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Act, 2019, alleging that the scheme operated as an illegal Ponzi/money circulation scheme. The CBI filed Charge-Sheet No. 87/2024 dated 09.11.2024, revealing that Rs. 46.43 Crore was fraudulently collected from the public and deposited in bank accounts of the accused and related entities.

During the course of investigation, Rs. 11.26 Lakh (approx.) lying in the bank account of Salai Mart Pvt. Ltd. and Rs. 2.32 Crore (approx.) lying in the bank account of Salai Agri Consortium Pvt. Ltd. were provisionally attached, which were later confirmed by the Ld. Adjudicating Authority. Subsequently, a Prosecution Complaint was filed before the Ld. Special Court (PMLA), Imphal East.

Further investigation revealed that the Proceeds of Crime were routed through bank accounts of Salai Group companies and directors and were utilized for various purposes including business expenses, acquisition of assets, foreign remittances for purchase of machinery, payment of customs duty and income tax, foreign travel expenses of directors, credit card payments, and cash withdrawals through employees. A portion of the proceeds was also used for purchase of properties in cash.

Further course of Investigation led to identification of 28 immovable properties and 05 movable properties in the names of Salai Group of Companies, SMART Society and associated entities which were obtained out of PoC. In this regard, the said properties amounting to Rs. 50.80 Crore are provisionally attached.

Till date a total of Rs. 53.22 Crore pertaining to various movable and immovable properties in the name of Salai group of companies and associated entities have been provisionally attached.

Further investigation in under process.