



Press release
29.10.2021

Enforcement Directorate has frozen a BELL 214 Helicopter of Hameed Ibrahim and Abdulla of M/s Marilog Avion Services Co. Ltd., Bangkok located at J.Matadee Free Trade Warehouse Zone, Chennai under the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 on 23rd October, 2021.

The Subject Bell 214 Helicopter has been under investigation owing to a case registered by the US Department of Homeland Security over its alleged end use in a prohibited country. US Department of Justice has made a request for assistance in executing the Warrant for Arrest in Rem on the said Helicopter located in Chennai issued by the United States District Court, Columbia. The instant ED action is in accordance with the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty entered with USA. The subject helicopter has been imported by Hameed Ibrahim and Abdulla of M/s Marilog Avion Services Co. Ltd., Bangkok from AAR Corporation, USA and it is shipped to India through Thailand in the year 2019 and stored in the premises of a Chennai based company's Free Trade Warehouse Zone at Chennai.

Consequently, search operation was carried out at various premises including Chennai FTWZ and residential premises of the Directors of M/s Marilog Avion Services Pvt Ltd., which happens to be the importer of the Helicopter to Chennai FTWZ from USA through Thailand. It is found that the subject Helicopter kept at a warehouse of a Chennai based company on a monthly rental basis. During the search proceedings, the Helicopter has been found in dismantled condition; that its rotar blade, Tailboom, Engine, Rotor Hub etc. were seen to be detached from the Helicopter and seen in a separate package and subsequently a freezing order under Section 17(1A) of PMLA, 2002 was issued to the custodian of the premises, restraining further movement of the Helicopter and its spare parts from Free Trade Warehouse Zone.