



## **Press Release**

**21.03.2022**

Directorate of Enforcement (ED) arrested Ayan Sil, a middleman cum agent involved in the illegal recruitment of teachers and staff in the state of West Bengal on 20.03.2023, and produced him before PMLA Spl. Court. Court has granted his ED custody for 13 days (till 01-04-2023). The ED had earlier carried out searches at 9 locations linked to Santanu Banerjee & Ayan Sil in the Teacher Recruitment Scam of West Bengal on 18/19.03.2023.

The search operation which concluded at the wee hours of 20.03.2023 resulted in the seizure of incriminating documents and electronic records/devices pointing towards huge collection of illegal money running into Crores of rupees from the job aspirants of primary teachers. Various incriminating documents corroborating/ revealing illegalities in the recruitment of **mazdoors (labour), clerks, peons, mistry, drivers** in the Municipalities of the state of West Bengal have also been recovered and seized during the searches from the premises of Ayan Sil.

ED has so far arrested 6 persons involved in the scam namely Partha Chatterjee, MLA and the then Education Minister of West Bengal; Ms. Arpita Mukherjee, Manik Bhattacharya, MLA, TMC and the Ex- President of the West Bengal Board of Primary Education, Kuntal Ghosh and Santanu Banerjee and Ayan Sil in the Teachers Recruitment Scam in West Bengal. Further, ED has already seized cash amounting to a total of Rs. 49.80 Crore and gold & jewellery valued at more than Rs. 5.08 Crore and provisionally attached properties worth Rs. 48.22 Crore in the case. The total seizure and attachment stand at **Rs. 111 Crore** in the case so far.

Further Investigation is under progress.

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