



**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**Enforcement Directorate, India and Financial Crimes Commission, Mauritius Sign Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to Strengthen Cooperation in tackling Financial Crimes and Money Laundering**

The Enforcement Directorate (ED), India, and the Financial Crimes Commission (FCC), Mauritius, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance cooperation in combating financial crimes, including money laundering, corruption, fraud, asset recovery, and the financing of illicit activities. The MoU was exchanged in the presence of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Sh. Narendra Modi and the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Mauritius Dr Navinchandra Ramgoolam as part of the former's State Visit to Mauritius. The signing of this MoU marks a significant step towards strengthening international cooperation in financial crime enforcement and ensuring a more coordinated approach to tackling transnational financial threats.

By strengthening its partnerships with key international agencies, India is reinforcing its commitment to global financial integrity and ensuring that illicit assets do not remain beyond the reach of justice. This agreement aligns with India's broader efforts to enhance international cooperation in asset recovery, as outlined in its commitments under FATF recommendations and other global anti-money laundering frameworks.

During the discussions held at the time of signing of the MoU, the Director, ED highlighted the agency's expertise in financial crime investigations, its high conviction rate in money laundering trials, and its successful track record in asset tracing, confiscation, and recovery. He underscored the legal mechanisms under India's Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA)—particularly Section 8(7) which provides for non-conviction based and 8(8) which empowers Special PMLA Courts to safeguard the interests of victims by enabling asset restitution even during the pendency of trials. ED has also implemented robust internal guidelines and standard operating procedures to ensure the fair and transparent distribution of recovered assets, particularly in cases involving bank frauds and Ponzi schemes. He highlighted how ED has successfully restituted assets to the tune of INR 2.6 billion to the victims.

During the discussions, Director, ED and Acting DG, FCC explored the possibilities of joint operations to detect, investigate and prosecute cross-border money laundering offences. They also underlined the significance of exchange programmes, experience sharing and trainings and skill building of officers of both organizations. Discussions were held on how ED can assist FCC by providing technological assistance and sharing of their digital forensic tools and best practices, towards ensuring better data seizing and extraction, and more productive data analysis. Options were also explored towards cooperation between both countries on various international platforms.

The collaboration between ED and FCC will not only bolster financial enforcement capabilities but will also contribute to broader economic and security cooperation between India and Mauritius. The Enforcement Directorate remains committed to working closely with international partners to ensure an effective and coordinated response to financial crimes and asset recovery challenges.

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