



Press Release
21.01.2022

Enforcement Directorate has filed Prosecution Complaint before Hon'ble Special Court at Panchkula, Haryana against Lalit Goyal, Vice-chairman cum Managing Director of IREO Group of companies and others under the Prevention of Money-laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 in a case related to multi-crore real estate scam. The Hon'ble Special Court, Panchkula has taken cognizance of the present complaint on 21.01.2022.

ED initiated money laundering investigation on the basis of FIRs under various sections of Indian Penal Code (IPC), 1860 registered at various Police Stations across Gurugram, Panchkula, Ludhiana, Delhi etc. 30 FIRs have been identified in the case so far.

ED investigation inter-alia revealed that over 1050 homebuyers/investors of IREO Projects, namely IREO Fiveriver, The Corridors, IREO City, Gurgaon Hills in Haryana and IREO Waterfront Township in Punjab, among others, had made advance payments but are yet to receive their booked flats/plots despite elapse of more than 4-5 years. Investigation further reveals that IREO Group of companies could not complete its projects due to diversion and siphoning of funds. Customer receipts to the tune of Rs. 1225 Crore have been diverted outside India in the form of redemption / purchase / transfer & buy-back of shares / FCDs etc. violating the FDI policy and other laws. The modus operandi adopted by the group includes routing of funds to India from various entities based in tax havens like British Virgin Islands, Mauritius, recording of fictitious expenses in the books of account, writing off project in progress, interest free loans and advances to sister concerns and round tripping of funds through shell companies and creation of assets within and outside India.

Investigation further revealed that Lalit Goyal is settler and named beneficiary of a overseas Trust which owns and controls entities holding assets outside India. Recent Pandora Papers Leak has also named four entities (which are beneficially owned by Lalit Goyal) which are holding assets of more than USD 77.73 Million (Rs. 575 Crore approximately) overseas.

The accused, Lalit Goyal, was arrested on 16.11.2021 after Look Out Circular (LOC) issued against him and has since been in judicial custody. In the matter, searches were also conducted on 22.11.2021.

Further investigation in this case is under progress.
