

Press Release 06.07.2024

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Ranchi has provisionally attached four (4) immovable properties having combined value of Rs. 4.42 Crore, belonging to Sanjeev Kumar Lal, Reeta Lal and Jahangir Alam in the case of Suresh Prasad Verma & others under the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of an FIR and Chargesheet filed by ACB, Jamshedpur against Suresh Prasad Verma and Alok Ranjan. Further, during PMLA investigation, it was found that Rs 2.67 Crore seized by ACB Jamshedpur from the premise of Alok Ranjan (who was then residing as a tenant in the house of Suresh Prasad Verma) was actually belonging to Veerendra Kumar Ram who was a Government Employee posted as Chief Engineer in the Rural Development Special Zone and Rural Works Department, both under Govt. of Jharkhand.

Further on the basis of the information shared under the provisions of PMLA, 2002 an FIR was registered by Economic Offence Wing (EOW), Delhi against Veerendra Kumar Ram, Mukesh Mittal, and unknown Others. In light of the additional facts emerging out of the investigation, FIR registered by EOW, Delhi was merged with the investigation.

During the course of the investigation, assets of Veerendra Kumar Ram and his family members amounting to a total of Rs. 39.28 Crore (approx.) were provisionally attached vide Provisional Attachment Order (PAO) dated 18.04.2023 which has duly been confirmed by the Ld. Adjudicating Authority. Further, another PAO dated 03.08.2023 has been issued whereby assets worth Rs. 35.77 Crore (approx.) of Mukesh Mittal (CA of Veerendra Kumar Ram) was attached provisionally and the said PAO has duly been confirmed by the Ld. Adjudicating Authority.

A prosecution complaint was filed before the Hon'ble PMLA Court, Ranchi on 21.04.2023 against accused persons Veerendra Kumar Ram, Alok Ranjan, Rajkumari and Genda Ram and further, a supplementary prosecution complaint was filed before the Hon'ble Court on 20.08.2023 against the accused persons Mukesh Mittal, Tara Chand, Neeraj Mittal, Ram Parkash Bhatia, Harish Yadav and Hirdya Nand Tiwari.

During the further course of the investigation, searches were conducted on different dates in May 2024 under section 17 of the PMLA, 2002, and as a result of search, cash to the tune of Rs. 37.55 Crore, one vehicle, one scooty, jewellery, several digital devices and incriminating documents were seized/frozen. It was revealed during investigation that commission of 3.2% of the total tender value is taken from the contractors for tender allocation which is distributed in a mechanised manner from top to bottom in Rural Works Department, Govt. of Jharkhand which also includes the commission of around 1.5% for the Minister Alamgir Alam.

Further, during the course of investigation, then Minister Alamgir Alam; his then PS Sanjeev Kumar Lal and Jahangir Alam (close aide of Sanjeev Kumar Lal) were arrested u/s 19 of PMLA, 2002. Further, assets of Sanjeev Kumar Lal, Reeta Lal (wife of Sanjeev Kumar Lal) and Jahangir Alam acquired by proceeds of crime were identified and immovable properties worth Rs. 4.42 Crore were attached vide Provisional Attachment Order dated 04.07.2024. Another supplementary prosecution complaint was filed before The Hon'ble Special PMLA Court, Ranchi against Alamgir Alam, Sanjeev Kumar Lal and Jahangir Alam on 04.07.2024.

Till date, three Prosecution Complaint against 13 (thirteen) accused persons, 3 (three) provisional attachment orders (PAOs) have been issued whereby assets to the tune of Rs. 44 Crore have been attached, cash of around Rs. 38 Crore (approx.) have been seized, 8 (eight) luxury vehicles have been seized, and nine persons have been arrested in the case.

Further investigation is under progress.