

Press Release 28.02.2024

In a significant move to restore the Proceeds of Crime (POC) to rightful claimants, the Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Delhi Zonal office has successfully restituted property valued at Rs. 274.60 Crore to victims and rightful claimants in the case of **M/s. PSL Limited** being investigated by ED. The investigation was initiated by the ED on the basis of an FIR filed by the CBI (BS&FC), Mumbai. The FIR was registered on the basis of complaint of Bank of Baroda, Mumbai against M/s PSL Limited and its directors accusing M/s PSL Limited and its Directors of criminal conspiracy, cheating, and criminal misconduct under Sections 120B read with 420 of the IPC and Section 13(2) read with Section 13(1)(d) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.

Based on the FIR, the ED opened an investigation on 31.03.2019 by recording an ECIR No. 06/MBZO-/2020, since the alleged offences under Sections 420 and 120B of the IPC, 1860 are scheduled offences under the PMLA. The investigation revealed that the Directors of M/s PSL Limited had diverted loan funds amounting to Rs. 274.60 Crore, which was nothing but POC. In parallel, the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), Ahmedabad, initiated liquidation proceedings against M/s PSL Limited on 11.09.2020 and appointed a Liquidator.

During the investigation, the ED issued a Provisional Attachment Order on 02.12.2021, attaching assets worth Rs. 274.60 Crore belonging to M/s PSL Limited. In a subsequent order from the Hon'ble Delhi High Court on 23.03.2023, the Liquidator was directed to proceeds with the liquidation proceedings and place the liquidation proceeds, amounting to Rs. 274.60 Crore, in a fixed deposit with a nationalized bank in the name of the Joint Director, ED. In pursuance to the same order, the FDRs amounting to Rs. 274.60 Crore were received and kept in possession of ED.

On 27.02.2025, considering the intent of PMLA to restitute/ restore the POC to bonafide legitimate claimants and victims of the offence of money-laundering, the ED submitted no objection before the Hon'ble Delhi High Court for release of FDRs amounting to Rs. 274 Crore along with interest accrued thereupon to the liquidator to further restore such properties to the bonafide legitimate claimants and victims of the offence of money-laundering in the matter.

Based on the afore-said submission of ED, the Hon'ble Delhi High Court was pleased to pass an order to restitute the FDRs to the tune of 274.60 Crore along with the accrued interest to the liquidator to further restore such properties to the bonafide legitimate claimants and victims of the offence of money-laundering.

The restitution of the properties to the rightful claimant and victim marks a significant step in the ED's ongoing efforts to ensure that the POC are returned to those affected. The ED continues to uphold its commitment to combating financial crimes and ensuring justice for victims of such crimes.