

## Press Release 03.12.2024

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Kolkata Zonal Office has filed a 5<sup>th</sup> Supplementary Prosecution Complaint (PC) under the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 before the Hon'ble Special Court (PMLA), Kolkata against 29 accused persons/entities on 30.11.2024 in the matter of **illegal appointment of Primary Teacher**. The Hon'ble Court has taken cognizance of the same on 30.11.2024.

Earlier ED has also filed one Prosecution Complaint and four Supplementary Prosecution Complaints against 25 accused persons and entities including Partha Chatterjee, the then Minister In charge of Education Department, Govt of West Bengal, and Manik Bhattacharya the then President of West Bengal Board of Primary Education and cognizance of the same has already been taken by Hon'ble Special Court (PMLA).

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR registered by the CBI under various sections IPC, 1860 & Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 in the matter of illegal appointment of Primary Teacher for offering appointment to the undeserving, non-listed and below ranked candidates and depriving the deserving and genuine candidates and without maintaining fairness, in criminal conspiracy with each other by flouting the relevant Rules.

ED had earlier arrested seven persons including Partha Chatterjee, the then Minister In charge of Education Department, Govt of West Bengal and his close associate Arpita Mukherjee. A total of cash amounting to Rs. 49.80 Crore and gold & jewellery valued at Rs. 5.08 Crore was seized from the house of close associates of Partha Chatterjee. Earlier a total of 6 Provisional attachment Orders amounting to Rs. 95 Crore (approx.) and eleven number of OAs have been issued in the case.

Further, the total seizure and attachment at present stand at Rs. 151.26 Crore (approx.) which is held in the name of accused persons and entities.

Further investigation is under progress.