



PRESS RELEASE
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Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Mumbai Zonal Office has conducted search operations on 20.06.2025, under Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 at various locations in Kolhapur, Surat, Ahmednagar and Pune as part of ongoing probe in the case of bogus ponzi/multi level marketing schemes/illegal forex trading platforms namely VIPS Group of companies operated by Vinod Tukaram Khute, his family members and associates. During the course of search operations, various incriminating documents, immovable asset details worth crores, digital devices and bank funds were seized/frozen.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR registered by Bharti Vidhyapeeth Police Station, Pune against Vinod Khute, Santosh Khute, Mangesh Khute, Kiran Pitamber Anarase, Ajinkya Badadhe and others for duping/cheating common people in the name of ponzi/ multi level marketing schemes and forex trading platforms promising exorbitant returns and collected more than Rs.100 Crore.

Vinod Khute residing in Dubai, is the mastermind of various illicit multi-level marketing and ponzi schemes, illegal trading, crypto exchange, wallet services through VIPS Group of companies, M/s.Global Affiliate Business, M/s.Kana Capital, Real Gold Capital etc..

The search operations were conducted on the associates of Vinod Khute who were involved in enticing and luring common public into investing in bogus/illicit schemes/illegal trading and activities of Vinod Khute. Funds collected through various bogus/shell entities were layered and ultimately withdrawn through cash and siphoned off to Dubai by conversion to Crypto/virtual assets or through Hawala channels.

ED earlier in this case has conducted search operations and issued Provisional Attachment Orders resulting into attachment/freezing of various bank balances, movable assets, immovable properties of Vinod Khute and his relatives/associates in India and Dubai amounting to **Rs. 75.42 Crore**.

Further investigation is under progress.
