

## Press Note 19/06/2024

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Lucknow Zonal Office has filed a Prosecution Complaint (PC) before the Hon'ble Special Court (PMLA), Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh in money laundering case of Shine City Fraud on 24.04.2024. The Hon'ble Special Court has taken cognizance of the PC on 10.06.2024. This is the second prosecution complaint filed by ED in the matter.

ED initiated investigation based on approximately 554 FIRs registered by Uttar Pradesh Police against Rasheed Naseem and Shine City Group of Companies.

ED investigation revealed that the accused persons, associates & promoters incorporated several companies and collected funds from the public in Ponzi-pyramid scheme under the guise of investment in real estate sector and other attractive schemes and thereafter diverted the funds. ED investigation identified the fund trail and found that money collected from the customers were diverted and transferred to various directors/promoters/associates & Group companies under the guise of commission/royalty amount. The funds so diverted were utilized for the purchase of property. ED investigation till now has identified such properties worth Rs.128 Crore and have attached them under provisions of PMLA. The role of Directors and companies controlled by them in money laundering has been established.

Previously ED had conducted searches under the provisions of the PMLA, 2002 at 18 locations in Lucknow, Varanasi, Allahabad, Mumbai, and Delhi. Search operations resulted in the recovery & seizure of several digital devices, incriminating documents regarding continuous involvement of some persons in the act of money laundering. The ED had arrested and conducted custodial interrogation of 7 accused persons namely Mrs. Shashi Bala, Abhishek Singh, Durga Prasad, Udhaw Singh, Ashif Naseem, Amitabh Srivastava and Mrs. Meera Srivastava. The custodial interrogation revealed their involvement in the offence of money laundering.

The ED has now filed Prosecution Complaint against Asif Naseem, Rashid Naseem, Amitabh Kumar Srivastava, Mrs. Meera Srivastava and 11 shine city group companies.