



Press Release

19.09.2023

Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has conducted search and survey operations on 18.09.2023 under PMLA, 2002 at 09 locations across the State of Kerala as part of investigation against benamis and beneficiaries who siphoned off bank funds of more than Rs. 150 Crore from Karuvannur Service Cooperative Bank Ltd.

ED investigation initiated on the basis of Police FIRs alleging that the accused had swindled public money through irregularities in sanctioning process. ED investigation into the fraud has revealed that on the instructions of District level leaders of a political party and committee members who governed the Bank, loans were disbursed by the Bank Manager through the agent in cash to non-member benamis by mortgaging properties of poor members without their knowledge and laundered to the benefit of Accused.

During the searches and survey operations 800 grams gold and Rs. 5.5 Lakh were seized from the residential premises of Sunil Kumar, from the residence of Anilkumar, 05 documents of value approximately Rs. 15 Crore were seized and from the residential premises of Deepak S., 19 documents of value more than Rs. 5 Crore were seized being proceeds of crime. From the premises of document writers, evidences in the form of benami properties documents dealt by Satheesh Kumar of nearly 25 properties have been retrieved.

Based on the investigation conducted so far, a Provisional Attachment Order was issued for Rs. 30 Crores against the properties of A.K. Bijoy who had availed loans by forging documents in connivance with the Bank Manager and the office bearers of the said bank. Earlier, searches have been conducted in 11 premises and on 04.09.2023, ED arrested two individuals namely, Sathish Kumar & Kiran P P, under the provisions of the PMLA, 2002.

Further investigation is under progress.