



**PRESS RELEASE**

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**ED conducts search operation in Municipality Recruitment Scam, West Bengal**

Directorate of Enforcement (ED) Kolkata Zonal Office has conducted a search operation at 13 places on 10.10.2025 in and around Kolkata in the **Municipality Recruitment Scam**. The premises covered during search include the office of Sujit Bose, MLA & Minister of Fire & Emergency Services, West Bengal and that of his firms among others. During the course of searches various incriminating documents including property documents, digital devices and unexplained cash amounting to Rs. 45 Lakh have been seized.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR registered by CBI on the directions of Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta. It is pertinent to mention that the ED had filed an application being CAN 2 of 2023 in WPA 9979 of 2022 with CAN 1 of 2023 in the matter of Soumen Nandy Vs The State of West Bengal & Ors before the Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta placing therein a status report on its findings related to the illegalities committed in the recruitment of various posts in the municipalities spread across the state of West Bengal.

Earlier during investigation by ED in the Primary Teachers Recruitment Scam, searches were carried out at various premises linked to Ayan Sil and others in 2023. During search, several incriminating documents along with digital evidence were recovered and seized from the possession of Ayan Sil. The scrutiny of the incriminating documents had revealed that the scam is not only limited to recruitment of the teachers but also covers several other appointments by various municipalities [including Kanchrapra, New Barrackpore, Kamarhati, Titagarh, Baranagar, Halisahar, South Dum Dum (N), Dum Dum etc.] which includes recruitment of Mazdoors (मजदूर), Sweepers, Clerks, Peon, Ambulance attendants, Assistant Mistries, Pump operators, Helpers, Sanitary assistants, Drivers, etc.

Investigation conducted so far has revealed that the contracts pertaining to various Municipal Corporations, Municipalities etc. were given to a single company M/s. ABS Infozon Pvt Ltd. (Director- Ayan Sil) for the printing of question papers, printing of OMR sheets, evaluation of marks obtained by the candidates and preparation of the merit list etc. Ayan Sil and other high functionaries including public servants and political leaders hatched a criminal conspiracy among themselves including other private persons and in pursuance to that conspiracy Ayan Sil, Director of M/s ABS Infozon Pvt. Ltd. by abusing his power and position being responsible for the printing, designing and evaluation of OMR sheets resorted to manipulation of OMR sheets of the candidates and facilitated the illegal appointments of several unmeritorious candidates in several municipalities in lieu of money.

ED has already filed a Prosecution Complaint in the case against Ayan Sil before the Hon'ble Special Court (PMLA), Kolkata. ED had earlier also conducted search at the premises of various functionaries of Municipalities, residential premises of Sujit Bose, MLA and Rathin Ghosh, MLA and Minister of Food & Supplies, West Bengal.

Further investigation is under progress.