



Press Release
30.07.2024

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Kolkata Zonal Office has filed Prosecution Complaint (PC) on 29.07.2024 before the Hon'ble Special Court (PMLA), Nagpur against Lakshman Hembram, Sub Postmaster, Postal Department under the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002. The Hon'ble Court has taken cognizance of the PC on 29.07.2024.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR registered by Moyna Police Station, Purba Medinipur under various sections of IPC, 1860, against Lakshman Hembram.

ED investigation revealed that during the period from 2014 to 2018, Lakshman Hembram used to effect premature/final closure of Time Deposits (TD) Accounts apparently by forging signature of the account holders and transfer the pre-mature amount/maturity proceeds of those TD accounts to the Saving accounts (SB) of the same account holders without knowledge of those account holders. Thereafter he used to siphon off the said amount from their SB accounts by way of fraudulent withdrawals from those accounts again apparently by forging signature(s) of the account holders and none of these withdrawals found mention in the relevant passbooks of the depositors. The defalcation amount stood at Rs.4.49 Crore, which was used by Lakshman Hembram for purchase of immovable properties either in his name or in the name of his family members. He also diverted funds for making investments in other businesses to earn profit.

Earlier search operation was conducted by the ED, at the residential places of Lakshman Hembram, and incriminating documents related to his involvement in the fraud, cash amounting to Rs 5.25 Lakh and bank balance of Rs 5.97 Lakh were found and seized/frozen.

During further course of investigation, a Provisional Attachment Order was issued wherein movable and immovable properties pertaining to Lakshman Hembram worth Rs. 3.46 Crore were attached, which was subsequently confirmed by the Ld. Adjudicating Authority (PMLA).