

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Lucknow Zonal Office has carried out search operations at 15 locations related to Chhangur Baba, his close associate Naveen Rohra and others in Balrampur, Lucknow, and Mumbai under the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 in connection with money laundering case related to Chhangur Baba and others.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR registered by ATS, Lucknow under sections of IPC, 1860 alleging a large-scale conspiracy involving unlawful religious conversions, utilization of foreign funding, and activities posing a potential threat to national security. Chhangur Baba and his associates are alleged to have established an extensive network operating from the premises of Chand Auliya Dargah, Balrampur where he regularly organized large gatherings attended by both Indian and foreign nationals. He is accused of systematically inducing, coercing, and manipulating individuals of other faiths— particularly Scheduled Castes, and economically disadvantaged persons belonging to Hindu religion into religious conversion.

During the course of investigation, 22 bank accounts related to Chhangur Baba and his associates have been analyzed so far. From the analysis of these bank accounts, funds amounting to more than Rs. 60 Crore received by Chhangur Baba and his associates have been identified. It is also revealed that large amount of funds has been received from foreign countries by Chhangur Baba and his associates.

During the searches, number of documents were seized which revealed that funds which are nothing but Proceeds of Crime were majorly transferred to different people for purchasing number of immovable properties worth crores of rupees and carrying out construction activities in these properties.

The evidence collected during the searches revealed that all the immovable assets acquired by Chhangur Baba are in the names of his associates Naveen Rohra and Neetu Rohra to conceal his actual involvement in money laundering. The searches also resulted in recovery of physical records relevant for the investigation.

Further investigation is under progress.