

Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has conducted searches on **14.06.2023 and 15.06.2023** at 10 premises located in Prayagraj, Lucknow and New Delhi belonging to various aides and associates of Late Atiq Ahmad (EX MP/MLA and Mafia) including renown builders, Chartered Accountants. The said search action resulted into recovery and seizure of cash amounting to Rs. 17.80 Lakh, papers related to sale/purchase of properties, financial documents of company/firms, bank statements, mobile phones, laptops and other physical and electronic evidences to prove the offence of Money Laundering u/s 3 of PMLA, 2002. Physical and forensic analysis of seized evidences are ongoing.

ED initiated investigation against Atiq Ahmad and his aides under the provisions of Prevention Money Laundering Act, 2002 on the basis of crime RC lodged by CBI on the direction of Hon'ble Supreme Court on the allegation of kidnapping, extortion and assault against Atiq Ahmed and his men. Atiq Ahmad is a history sheeter (H.S. No. 39A) and runs a mafia gang that is involved in various crimes of serious nature from a long time. Around 100 FIRs of crimes related to murder, extortion, land grabbing etc. were revealed to be lodged against him in various police stations. During the investigations, it was revealed that by indulging in criminal activities since 1989 and by usurping govt. and other people's land properties, Atiq Ahmad has amassed huge property in his name, his family member's name and in the name of his associates and other benamidars.

It is also pertinent to mention that searches under section 17(1) of PMLA were also conducted on 12.04.2023 and 13.04.2023 at the premises of various close associates of Atiq Ahmad which resulted in recovery and seizure of cash Rs.84.68 Lacs, Gold Bar of Rs. 60 lacs, Gold and Diamond Jewellery worth Rs.2.85 Crore, digital devices and various physical documents/records.

Further investigation is in progress.