PRESS RELEASE
24/11/2025

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Bengaluru Zonal Office has conducted search operations at four locations in Delhi and Gurgaon on 18.11.2025 to 22.11.2025 in the case of WinZO games app under the provisions of the Prevention of Money-Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002. M/s WinZO Games Pvt. Ltd. is into the business of online real money gaming services through its app – WinZO. During the search, Proceeds of Crime (POC) possessed by WinZO Games Pvt. Ltd. worth around Rs 505 Crore have been frozen in the form of bank balances, bonds, FDRs, mutual funds under section 17 (1A) of the Prevention of Money-Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002.

Earlier, ED initiated investigation on the basis of the FIRs filed against M/s WinZO Games Pvt. Ltd and others on the grounds of cheating, blocking of accounts, impersonation, misuse of PAN etc. It is also alleged in the FIRs that the complainants' KYC was misused by WinZO and others, and the complainants have suffered substantial loss due to fraudulent activities and cheating by WinZO and others.

ED investigation revealed that WinZO company is operating Real Money Games (RMGs) in foreign countries such as Brazil, USA and Germany etc., from India (on the same platform used by the Indian entity). Even after the ban of RMGs by Union Government (w.e.f. 22/08/2025), an amount of Rs.43 Crore is still held by the company without refunding to the gamers/customers.

ED investigation further revealed that M/s WinZO Pvt Ltd. was engaged in criminal activities and unscrupulous practices i.e. customers were made to play with algorithms/software without being made aware of the fact that they are playing with software/algorithms and not with humans in real money games. WinZO has also prevented/limited withdrawals of monies held by the customers in the wallets of M/s WinZO Pvt Ltd. M/s WinZO Pvt Ltd also generated POC in the form of bet amounts placed and lost by real customers through the unscrupulous use of such algorithms/software which are received by the entity in its bank accounts.

ED investigation also revealed that global operations i.e, hosting of all type of games (including RMGs) are undertaken under the single App(application), same platform from India. It was also found that the funds by the Indian entity have been diverted to USA and Singapore under the garb of overseas investments. The funds worth USD 55 Million (Rs.489.90 Crore) have been parked in their bank account in USA (bank accounts held in the name of 'WINZO US Inc."),which is a shell company, since all the operations and day to day business activities, operation of bank accounts is done from India.

Further investigation is under progress.