PRESS RELEASE
10.10.2025

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Mumbai Zonal Office has conducted search operation on 08.10.2025, under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 at nine premises in Mumbai to trace the drug sale proceeds acquired by a well-established drug trafficking network of Faisal Javed Shaikh and Alfiya Faisal Shaikh. Cash of around Rs 42 lakhs, 3 second hand luxury vehicles including 2 BMWs, various incriminating documents including property details, digital devices, etc. were seized. Moreover, one bank locker and various Bank accounts suspecting to have Proceeds of Crime were also frozen during search proceedings.

ED initiated investigation under PMLA in connection with a case registered by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), Mumbai Zonal Unit against Ashik Varis Ali, Nasir Khan, Faisal Javed Shaikh, Alfiya Faisal Shaikh, Irfan Yusuf Faruqi, Azim Abu Salim Khan @ Azim Bhau, Faizan Mohd. Shafi Shaikh, Mohd. Shahid Faridudin Chaudhary @ Baboos, and others for their involvement in operating a drug syndicate in Mumbai, Maharashtra. Faisal Shaikh was purchasing MD drug through Salim Dola, a notorious drug kingpin. He has been wanted by law enforcement agencies for his involvement in narcotics trafficking and funding illegal drug network. The NCB has announced a reward for information leading to his arrest. After grant of bail in instant NCB case, Faisal Shaikh, being habitual offender, was also kept in Preventive Detention under PIT-NDPS.

ED investigation revealed that Faisal Shaikh and Alfiya Shaikh established a well organised network for sale of MD drug acquired from Salim Dola. Apart from the accused as per NCB, searches conducted by ED also included premises of persons relating to shell companies having paper transactions of more than Rs 100 Crore as well as firms making foreign outward remittances and having transactions with the accused, so as to ascertain the role of these entities in layering the Proceeds of Crime (POC) generated through sale of drugs and sending such POC outside India. ED searches were crucial to trace both the “forward linkage” (movement of drug sale proceeds) and “backward linkage” (the sources, beneficiaries, and conduits) of funds, including whether such proceeds were channelled abroad via routes such as hawala, shell companies or trade through mis-invoicing. The seized / frozen assets including cash, bank accounts, locker, vehicles, property documents, digital devices, etc. are being examined from the angle of offence of money laundering.

Further investigation is under progress.