



Press Release
06/12/2025

**33rd Quarterly Conference of Zonal Officers (QCZO) of the Enforcement Directorate
held in Kevadiya, Gujarat**



1. The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) successfully conducted its 33rd Quarterly Conference of Zonal Officers (QCZO) on 05th and 06th December, 2025 in Kevadiya, Gujarat. The two-day conference was chaired by the Director, ED, and attended by all Special Directors, Additional Directors, Joint Directors, Deputy/ Assistant Legal Advisors.
2. The 33rd QCZO placed strong emphasis on fast-tracking investigations and concluding cases efficiently through the enhanced use of technology. The sessions conducted focussed on the optimum use of national and international databases, forensic tools, artificial intelligence, OSINT techniques and digital resources to strengthen evidence collection, improve analytical capabilities and expedite complex financial crime investigations.
3. During the conference, it was highlighted that identification of high-impact cases that pose a greater threat to financial systems and national security is essential. The discussions emphasized the need for a robust mechanism to collect evidence and adapt to evolving crime patterns, particularly in areas such as money laundering, human trafficking and drug trafficking. Various typologies of offenses, including FDI violations, misuse of Global Depository Receipts (GDRs), and the use of cryptocurrency for remittances, were also discussed.

4. Another important aspect discussed revolved around strengthening processes to track fugitives and take appropriate action against individuals evading investigation or trial. Productive use of legal instruments such as Proclaimed Offender proceedings, Fugitive Economic Offender (FEO) declarations, Red Notices and extradition processes was highlighted. Discussions were also held on enhancing international cooperation in financial crime investigations and ensuring timely communication and coordination among relevant government agencies. The Director, ED stressed the importance of balancing enforcement with individual rights.

5. In continuation of the discussions held during the previous Quarterly Conference, deliberations were held on provisions of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), 2016, particularly in light of the latest circular issued by the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India in consultation with ED. The need to address various modes of misusing the IBC framework such as backdoor asset acquisition, manipulation of the Committee of Creditors (COC), and undisclosed profit transactions was emphasized. Specific cases illustrating undervalued asset sales and involvement of related parties in voting processes were discussed. The Director, ED stressed the need for thorough investigations into fraudulent transactions and the strict enforcement of IBC provisions.

6. A dedicated session was held on the BAANKNET platform and its potential for ensuring transparent and efficient auctions and disposal of seized and confiscated assets. Discussions also covered the possibility of formalising its use through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for asset disposal.

7. The significant topics addressed during the conference include:

- **Technology-Driven Investigations:** As mentioned earlier regarding the theme of fast tracking investigations, emphasis was laid on utilizing digital tools and forensic software, including cyber forensic tools, and on capacity building through officer training and establishment of regional labs.

- **FERA Adjudication:** In line with the previous conference, fast-tracking of old FERA adjudication cases was reiterated and emphasis was laid on completion of lifecycle of all such pending cases in various forums.

- **Tackling Undisclosed Foreign Assets:** Discussions were held on the provisions of the Black Money (Undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets) and Imposition of Tax Act as a predicate offence, implications under FEMA, and tackling such cases through improved coordination with the Income Tax Department.

- **Administrative Matters:** Matters such as deployment of CISF security personnel in field offices, vehicle allocation, recruitment of Assistant Legal Advisors (ALA), and other administrative issues were discussed.

8. The conference concluded with a mandate to enhance intra agency cooperation, adopt proactive strategies for the future, and reaffirm ED's commitment to strict enforcement of laws against money laundering, foreign exchange violations, and other economic crimes.
