



Press Release

23.01.2025

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Cochin office has provisionally attached movable and immovable assets totaling to Rs. 7.94 Crore (approx.) on 23/01/2025 located in Ernakulam and Idukki districts of Kerala in the case of **Shelji George and Ors.** under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002. The assets include several properties in the name of the primary accused, Shelji George, Deputy Manager, Tea Division, Supplyco, Ashok Bhandari and M/s Haileyburia Tea Estates Ltd.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of an FIR registered by Vigilance & Anti-Corruption Bureau, Special Investigation Unit-I, Thiruvananthapuram under various sections IPC, 1860 and Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 related to the manipulation of e-auction causing loss to The Kerala State Civil Supplies Corporation Limited (SUPPLYCO), a Government of Kerala-owned company headquartered at Ernakulam, India

ED investigation revealed that M/s Haileyburia Tea Estates Ltd. colluded with SShelji George, the then Deputy Manager of the Tea Division of the SUPPLYCO and manipulated the e- Auction organized by the Tea board using several dummy companies to inflate the prices of tea sold by them during the auction so that SUPPLYCO(auction bids controlled by Shelji George) bids for the said tea at a much higher price than its market value, thereby incurred a total loss of Rs. 8.91 Crore (approx.) to SUPPLYCO.

Further investigation is under progress.