

Enforcement Directorate (ED) has provisionally attached movable properties in the form of Cash & Bank balance totaling to Rs 1.04 Crore of Kaushal Mahendra bhai Vora and Punit Gunvantlal Shah in a money laundering case against various accused involved in the sale of fake remdesivir injections across Madhya Pradesh and certain other states at exorbitant prices during second wave of COVID-19 crisis.

The money laundering case was booked by ED against certain persons for manufacturing and sale of fake remdesivir injections during second wave of COVID-19. During the investigation by this Directorate, the supply chain of these injections was found to be originating at a manufacturing facility at Surat, Gujarat. Morbi Police of Gujarat had filed FIR in respect of the sale of fake remdesivir injections by various accused from the said manufacturing facility. The said injections were also sold to various vendors, retail customers and hospital based in Madhya Pradesh. Also, Indore Police of Madhya Pradesh had lodged FIR against certain persons attempting to sell fake remdesivir injections at Indore, MP.

Accused persons were found to be manufacturing the fake Remdesivir injections of similar appearance to that of a reputed brand. The said fake remdesivir injections were being manufactured by mixing glucose and salt in the deceptively similar bottles having similar stickers to that of branded original injections. Empty bottles of same size and similar appearance, huge quantity of Glucose & Salt, huge packing material, fake stickers and other raw materials in huge quantity were seized during the raids conducted at the farmhouse cum manufacturing facility at Surat by the Morbi Police, Gujarat.

The accused sold these fake remdesivir injections to various vendors who further sold the same to needy retail customers at exorbitant prices. In some cases, the injections were directly sold to retail needy customers who were identified by the accused persons through social media platforms during the peak of second wave of COVID-19. Also, the fake remdesivir injections were sold through vendors who were already in the business of supply of medical drugs. It has also come to notice that huge numbers of fake remdesivir injections were purchased and injected to various patients at exorbitant prices by a hospital based in Madhya Pradesh.

As per the preliminary estimates, thousands of such fake Remdesivir injections were sold across Madhya Pradesh and certain other states. Thus, the accused persons generated huge proceeds of Crime by endangering human lives during the peak of second wave of COVID-19.

During the investigation by this directorate, it has been found that the above said cash amount of Rs 1,00,70,000/ recovered from the premises of the accused persons, and Rs 3,92,010 lying in bank account of the accused persons was



generated by selling these fake remdesivir injections at the cost of life of innocent citizens. Out of the above, Rs 89.20 lakh cash was found in possession of Kaushal Mahendra Bhai Vora, who masterminded the entire conspiracy of manufacture of fake Remdesivir injections at farmhouse cum manufacturing facility at Surat and Rs 11.50 lakh cash and Rs 3.92 lakh bank balance was found in possession of Punit Gunvantlal Shah, the co-conspirator of production and supply of fake Remdesivir injections. Hence, the same has been attached by this Directorate under the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002.

Further investigation is under progress.	

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