

<u>Press Release</u> 17.02.2022

Enforcement Directorate has provisionally attached under PMLA, 2002 immovable properties in the form of 79 land properties of market value around Rs 25 Crore, located in the suburbs of Chennai belonging to and in the benami names of PPGD Sankar against whom 15 FIRs and 3 Charge sheets have been filed by Tamil Nadu Police on offences of Murder, Extortions, Robbery and Dacoity and Criminal Conspiracy etc.

ED initiated the investigation under PMLA, 2002 on the basis of FIR registered by TamilNadu Police and conducted searches at various premises of PPGD Sankar and his associates. During the course of search, various incriminating property documents were found and seized under PMLA. During the course of further investigation, various statements of accused and his associates were recorded.

ED unearthed various Benami Properties of PPGD Sankar which were purchased by him out of cash generated from extorting various people over period of time. He could not explain any legal source of cash payments for acquiring the property and confessed during the course of investigation that such money, which was used by him to acquire such 79 properties, was not generated from any legal business but by extortion of various people over the period of time.

The accused has adopted a unique modal of projecting the proceeds of crime as untainted property, by registering the properties by way of General Power of Attorney in his name and keeping the ownership in his BENAMI names in the official documents.

The GPA was used as an alternative to Sale Deeds. He had made the payment for such properties but did not register the properties in his name to safeguard himself, as there are many cases by Police going against him.

Further investigation in the case is in progress.