

## PRESS RELEASE 14/10/2025

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Panaji Zonal Office conducted search operations at six locations across Goa, New Delhi and Chandigarh on 10.10.2025 under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, in connection with the ongoing investigation into a land scam involving Yeshwant Sawant and others. The search operations were undertaken at the premises of Umar Zahoor Shah & Neeraj Sharma, both of them partners of M/s Thinking of You and Rajesh Kumar, one of the Directors of M/s Purple Martini Entertainment Pvt Ltd.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of an FIR registered by the Goa Police against Yeshwant Sawant and others under various sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), 1860, for allegedly defrauding the Communidade of Anjuna of its land located at Survey No. 496/1-A, Anjuna, Goa. The accused are alleged to have produced fake and forged documents viz. the *Certificate of Provisional Possession* dated 26.01.1952, *Proceedings of Demarcation* dated 16.01.1958, and the *Certificate of Final Possession* dated 24.09.1952, as no such documents were ever issued by the Office of the Comunidade of Anjuna or by the Office of the Administrator of Comunidades, North Zone, Mapusa–Goa, before the concerned authorities to mutate the said land in their names and subsequently sold portions of it to other individuals, thereby generating Proceeds of Crime (PoC).

Earlier, on 09.09.2025, the ED conducted search operations that led to the identification of several land parcels fraudulently acquired by Shivshankar Mayekar & others in the names of their friends and relatives. These properties, spanning several lakh square meters, are located in prime tourist areas such as Anjuna and Assagao in Bardez Taluka, Goa. The total market valuation of the implicated land parcels illegally grabbed by the accused persons is likely to exceed Rs. 1,200 Crore. During the earlier search operations, cash amounting to approximately Rs. 72 Lakh was seized, and seven high-end vehicles viz. Porsche Cayman, BMW 650 L. Range Rover, Mercedes Benz, BMW M5, Audi A-6 etc were seized. Multiple bank accounts/fixed deposits belonging to the individuals involved in these transactions were also frozen.

Subsequently, Shivshankar Mayekar was arrested on 01.10.2025 for his involvement in the illegal acquisition of these land parcels and he is currently in judicial custody.

During the latest search operations, the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) recovered several incriminating documents, including Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) and lease agreements pertaining to multiple land parcels that were fraudulently acquired by forging title documents across Goa. These documents were executed between key individuals involved in the land-grabbing activities and other associated persons. The investigation is ongoing to determine the involvement of additional individuals and to uncover the full extent of the illegal land-related activities in Goa.

Additionally, the searches led to the discovery of 6 decentralised crypto wallets containing cryptocurrencies worth approximately 1.5 lakh USDT, which have been frozen. Further, notes and digital records indicating the investment of cash, allegedly generated from a prominent club in Goa, into various land parcels connected with the key individuals involved in the land grabbing, were also recovered during the operation.

Further investigation is under progress.