



PRESS RELEASE
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ED initiated investigation in the PDS Scam on the basis of various FIRs registered by West Bengal Police wherein various private persons were allegedly found in unauthorized possession of PDS ration and involved in bogus procurement of paddy. During ED investigation, it has been revealed that proceeds of crime was generated and shared among various persons by adopting various *modus operandi*.

During the investigation, it was revealed that such persons laundered the proceeds of crime using corporate identity of various companies, invested in acquisition of various immovable properties and also transferred part of said POC to certain companies under the control and beneficial ownership of Jyoti Priya Mallick.

During further investigation, searches were conducted at various Full Fledged Money Changers (FFMC) companies and associated persons on 05.01.2024 and relevant evidences were seized during the search. The investigation carried out so far indicates that the magnitude of the scam is enormous, and the proceeds of crime received and further transferred and layered by one suspected person itself are suspected to be at-least to the tune of Rs. 9,000 – 10,000 Crore and out of that, Rs. 2000 Crore were also suspected to be transferred to Dubai either directly or through Bangladesh. In this regard Sankar Addhya (resident of Bongaon), who has owned and controlled many FFMC companies, was **arrested on 05.01.2024** and produced before Ld. Special PMLA Court, Kolkata, which granted him **14 days of ED custody**.

Further during the search at residence and office premises of Sahajahan Shekh, Convenor of TMC Sandesh Khali, North 24 Parganas on 05.01.24, ED teams were attacked and accordingly, a complaint was made to jurisdictional Police for registration of FIR for offences under Section 307, 333, 326, **353**, 392, 395, 397, **149, 148, 186**, 189, 426, 435, 440, **341 & 342** r/w Section 120B, 109 and 115 of IPC, 1860. Police registered FIR no. 09 of 2024 at Nazat P.S. for offences i.e. 147, 148, 149, 341, 186, 353, 323, 427, 379, 504, 34 [**Mostly bailable and non-scheduled offences**]. Copy of the FIR has not been shared with this Directorate.

Another Incident:

Similar incident again happened with the ED team on 05.01.2024 while conducting search at the residence of Sankar Addhya in Simultala Bongaon, North 24 Paraganas. All the ED team members as well as CRPF personnel were threatened and assaulted by the crowd and obstructed the officials of the ED in performing their official duty at around 11:30PM. In this case Bongaon police was informed through email at 8:46 AM and thereafter SP Bongaon was contacted on mobile at around 4:00 PM with the request to provide sufficient security to the ED team. Despite this request, crowd was allowed to be gathered near premises being searched and crowd pelted stones and attacked the ED team around 11:30 PM. No physical injury was noticed to any ED officials but crowd damaged the vehicle of the ED search team. A formal complaint has been lodged with the concerned Police authorities. FIR Copy is awaited in this case also.