



Press Release
11.08.2021

The Special (PMLA) Court, Mohali has allowed confiscation of assets worth around Rs 10 Crore in Bhola Drug case on the request of Enforcement Directorate. ED had attached these assets including immovable properties, Indian currency, Foreign currencies, Fixed Deposits earlier and subsequently filed applications under section 8(7) of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (an Act of 2003), in respect of Four accused persons namely Roy Bahadur Nirwal, Mahesh Gaba, Anoop Singh Kahlon and Varinder Singh Raja, who were absconded during the course of trial.

In this case, the Ld. Court while passing the confiscation order categorically observed that no objection regarding confiscation of the properties has come from any quarter in spite of publication in the newspaper to the general public. The Ld. Court held that since the properties attached by ED have been confirmed by the Adjudicating Authority and the accused persons have been declared as Proclaimed Offenders by the Ld. Court for evading the process of law subsequent to the Prosecution Complaints filed against them, said properties are confiscated to the Central Government.

In the said Bhola Drug case, multiple FIRs under NDPS, IPC and Arms Act were registered by the Punjab Police in the years 2013 and 2014. Consequent to that, ED initiated investigation in this case of multi-crore synthetic drug racket that was operated by wrestler turned cop turned drug Mafia Jagdish Singh @ Bhola. During the course of money laundering investigation, statements of accused persons and witnesses were recorded and numerous documents from different agencies/ authorities have also been obtained. So far, a total of 05 Provisional Attachment Orders have been issued in this case wherein total proceeds of crime amounting to Rs. 95 Crore has been attached.

Jagdish Singh @ Bhola, who was the kingpin of the crime, was arrested under section 19 of PMLA on 23.01.2014 by ED, and since then he has been in Judicial Custody. He had filed 03 bail applications on various dates to secure his bail, however all were dismissed by Special PMLA Court.