



Press Release

02.08.2024

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Shimla Sub-Zonal Office has carried out search operations under the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 at 20 locations in Delhi, Chandigarh, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh (in Kangra, Una, Shimla, Mandi and Kullu districts) on 31.07.2024 against Shree Banke Bihari Hospital, Fortis Hospital Himachal Healthcare Private Limited, City Super Specialty Hospital, Shri Balaji Hospital, Shri Harihar Hospital, Sood Nursing Home, Neelkanth Hospital and their key management persons Dr. Vijender Minhas, Raghubir Singh Bali, Dr. Pradeep Makkar, Dr. Rajesh Sharma, Sh. Manish Bhatia, Dr. Manoj Sood and Dr. Hemant Kumar, respectively.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR registered by State Vigilance & Anti-Corruption Bureau (SV & ACB), Una (HP) under various sections of IPC, 1860 against Smt. Kiran Soni, Shree Banke Bihari Hospital, Una, (HP) and others for generating fake AB-PMJAY ID cards.

ED investigation revealed that apart from Bankey Bihari Hospital, Shri Balaji Hospital, Sood Nursing Home, Fortis Hospital and Sri Harihar Hospital etc. availed benefits of the AB-PMJAY scheme. During investigation, as many as 373 fake Ayushman Cards have been identified wherein claims of about Rs.40.68 Lakh (approx.) were made for reimbursement from the Govt. in the name of treatments given to the said Ayushman Card beneficiaries. List of such fake beneficiaries included the names of Rajnish Kumar (ABPMJAY Card No. PPKZU26H7) and Mrs Pooja Dhiman (ABPMJAY Card No. PICHWGI08) who, on verification, even denied possession or any information of any such PMJAY Card. Further, they never underwent any such treatment in any of these hospitals. Apart from this, hospitals have made claims for treatments/surgery/admission which were actually never given/done to the patient. Mrs Raksha Devi (having PMJAY ID- PLOE81RR2Q) was denied admission in the hospital, however, the hospital dishonestly and illegally blocked the package of Mrs Raksha Devi. Investigation also revealed that these hospitals were de- empanelled from Ayushman Bharat scheme for illegal practices and non-compliance of procedures/ guidelines. 8937 Ayushman Bharat golden cards have so far been scrapped in HP for alleged violation of the AB-PMJAY scheme. As per investigation conducted so far, the case involves Proceeds of Crime (PoC) of about Rs.25 Crore.

ED searches led to discovery of cash of Rs. 88 Lakh(approx.), 04 bank lockers and 140 related bank accounts. Further, apart from immovable and movable properties, books of accounts and other documents, 16 digital devices in the form of mobile phones/ ipads, hard disks and pen drives containing information regarding claims and documents related to AB-PMJAY, Himcare and other health schemes were found and seized. The seized documents contain information about claims of the hospitals and included suspicious transactions worth Rs.21 Crore for 23,000 patients. Searches also revealed several cases having severe mismatches in claims made to Govt. and actual data and data available in files in the hospital. It was also observed that several files regarding claims in the names of patients have gone missing.

Further investigation is under progress.