



Press Release
27.12.2023

Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has provisionally attached proceeds of crime in the form of movable and immovable properties valued at Rs. 278.71 Crore belonging to various persons and shell entities, including Chinese linked shell entities, which were allegedly found to be involved in duping investors of hundreds of crores, in the case of “HPZ Token and others”.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR registered by Cyber Crime Police Station, Kohima (Nagaland) under various sections of Indian Penal Code and Information Technology Act, in relation with duping of gullible investors, who were promised of astronomical returns on investing money for the purpose mining of Bitcoins and other Crypto Currencies, for which an App based Token by the name of “HPZ Token” was used.

ED investigation revealed that various Bank accounts and Merchant IDs were opened by various shell entities having dummy directors /proprietors only for the purpose of rotation/layering of proceeds of crime representing funds fraudulently received for illegal online gaming and betting and investment for Bitcoin mining. For an investment of Rs. 57,000/-, returns of Rs. 4,000 per day for 3 months were promised but money was paid only once and thereafter fresh funds were sought.

The present action of attachment of proceeds of crime is in continuation of earlier action by ED, wherein ED had conducted search operations at 44 locations throughout the country and an amount of Rs.176.67 Crore, maintained by shell entities in various banks/ virtual accounts was frozen. So far, the total proceeds of crime restrained by ED in this case stands at Rs. 455.37 Crore.

Further Investigation is under progress.