



Press Release
17.09.2024

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Kochi Zonal Office has provisionally attached movable and immovable assets valued at Rs. 31.05 Crore in the case of M/s Highrich Online Group under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002. The assets include several properties in the name of the primary accused Prathapan K.D., Managing Director of Highrich Online Shoppe Pvt. Ltd., and the Company Highrich Online Shoppe Pvt. Ltd., its group companies, his family members, and other promoters who promoted the ponzi type money chain schemes floated by the company. Further, Prosecution Complaint (PC) has also been filed by ED on 31.08.2024 before the CBI-II Special Court, Ernakulam against the Directors K.D. Prathapan, Sreena Prathapan, Dinuraj and other key leaders of the fraudulent scheme. The Hon'ble Court has taken cognizance of the PC.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of several FIRs registered by Kerala Police under the provisions of Section 420 of IPC, 1860 & multiple complaints received against Highrich Groups and its Directors.

ED investigation revealed that Prathapan K.D. and his wife Smt. Sreena K.S. orchestrated the fraud by collecting amounts from investors through Multi-Level Marketing money circulation schemes. They have introduced several misleading campaigns such as "Highrich Online Scheme"- Grocery membership portal, "Farm City"- Leased land from several people stating that they have approval of NABARD to create model farms, "HROTT"- Created OTT platform and invited investments in return for share of profits, "HRCOIN and HRCC"- created fake crypto currency and artificially manipulated the price, so as to collect money by luring innocent investors stating that investors would earn huge money by further adding more investors under the binary tree model they have created. More than ten lakh members have been lured to subscribe through the above fraudulent modus operandi and have fallen prey to the ponzi scheme.

The amount collected from the public by the accused, was utilized for personal purposes and investment in several other personal properties, thereby cheating depositors. The total Proceeds of Crime (POC) involved in this case are Rs.1651.65 Crore and properties worth Rs. 244.03 Crore have already been frozen under PMLA, 2002. Prathapan K.D. was arrested on 04.07.2024 and is currently under judicial custody at District Jail, Kakkanad, Ernakulam.

Further investigation is under progress.