



PRESS RELEASE

12/10/2023

Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has provisionally attached immovable properties belonging to Vivekanad Shankar Patil, a four-time MLA from Shetkari Kamgar Paksha Party and Ex- Chairman of Karnala Nagari Sahakari Bank Ltd, Panvel, his relatives and Karnala Mahila Readymade Garments Cooperative Society Limited, an entity under his control having book value of Rs. 152 Crore (approx.) in form of pool of vast land, bungalow, residential complex etc. on 12.10.2023 in connection with a Bank Fraud case related to Karnala Nagari Sahakari Bank Ltd, Panvel.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR registered by EOW, Mumbai Police in the year 2019. The fraud came to light after an audit was done at the instance of Reserve Bank in the year 2019-20, when it was revealed that Vivekanad Shankar Patil was siphoning off funds from the bank through 67 fictitious loan accounts to the loan accounts of entities/firms/trusts owned/controlled by Vivekanand S Patil viz. Karnala Charitable Trust, Karnala Sports Academy, Karnala Mahila Readymade Garments Cooperative Society Limited and other entities under his control.

ED investigation revealed that defrauded amount was to the tune of Rs. 560 Crore (approx.) in respect of 67 fictitious loan accounts. To hide the siphoning, the available funds were routed to these fictitious accounts and from these accounts to the several bank accounts of entities founded/ controlled by Patil. These funds were utilised by Karnala Charitable Trust, Karnala Sports Academy etc. for construction of properties such as Sports Complex, College and Schools and for other personal gains, thereby using the proceeds of crime and projecting the same as un-tainted.

ED had arrested Vivekanand S Patil on 15.06.2021 and at present he is under Judicial Custody. A Prosecution Complaint for offence of money laundering has been filed against him and the bank on 12.08.2021. A Provisional attachment order dated 17.08.2021 was also issued earlier attaching immovable properties of Vivekanand S Patil, his family members and his related concerns worth Rs. 234 Crore. So far, assets having book value of Rs. 386 Crore have been attached.

Further investigation is under progress.