



Press Release
14.09.2023

Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has filed Prosecution Complaint under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA) against three accused Sumit Kumar (the then Branch Manager of Kotak Mahindra Bank, Boring Road, Branch, Patna), Shashikant Kumar and Mannu Singh before the Hon'ble Special PMLA Court, Patna. The Hon'ble Court was pleased to take cognizance of the offence of money laundering on 05.09.2023.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR registered by Gandhi Maidan Police Station, Patna, Bihar under various sections of IPC, 1960 followed by filing of charge-sheet alleging that fraudulent transactions totaling to Rs. 31.93 Crore from the bank account of Competent Authority for Land Acquisition (CALA) cum District Land Acquisition Officer (DLAO) were executed and funds were siphoned off using bank accounts of various shells/dummy entities causing huge loss to government exchequer.

ED investigation revealed that Sumit Kumar was involved in execution of fraudulent transactions and siphoning off government funds from the bank account of CALA cum DALA, accordingly he was arrested on 10.07.2023 by ED and searches were also carried out on 18.07.2023 at the premises related with Sumit Kumar and his family members which resulted in recovery of digital devices and incriminating documents containing details of investments made by Sumit Kumar and his family in properties, Fixed Deposits etc.

It is further noticed that Shashikant Kumar, one of the close associates of Sumit Kumar, assisted him in layering & laundering of Proceeds of Crime. Shashikant Kumar arranged entities and their bank accounts for routing of funds and subsequently facilitated conversion of the Government funds into cash. He also assisted Sumit Kumar and his associates in transferring of funds through hawala network. He was arrested in Bhubneshwar on 02.08.2023 by ED.

ED investigation further revealed that Mannu Singh was involved in siphoning off public money from the bank accounts of CALA cum DLAO and its further diversion to various shell/dummy entities. It is noticed that total funds of Rs. 3.05 Crore were debited from the account of CALA cum DLAO Patna and PD NHAI PIU and were credited in the bank accounts managed by Mannu Singh for its further layering and laundering in lieu of some commission. Searches were carried out at the residential premises of Mannu Singh and incriminating documents indicating utilization of POC in acquiring movable and immovable properties by him and his family members were recovered leading to his arrested on 18.08.2023.

Further investigation is under progress.