



Press Release

04.07.2024

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Raipur has arrested **Arvind Singh and Trilok Singh Dhillon** on 01.07.2024 under the provisions of Prevention of money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 in the ongoing money laundering investigation into the Liquor scam in the State of Chhattisgarh. **Arvind Singh and Trilok Singh Dhillon** were arrested on 01.07.2024 at Central Jail Raipur and later the Hon'ble Special Court (PMLA), Raipur granted ED Custody till 06.07.2024.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR registered by ACB/EOW Chhattisgarh under various sections of IPC, 1860 and Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 in the liquor scam.

ED investigation has revealed that Trilok Singh Dhillon was a prime beneficiary of Proceeds of Crime through a classic mode of money laundering. He has willingly and knowingly allowed his Bank accounts and firms to be used for layering of large amount of Proceeds of Crime. Without any reasonable explanation, he has taken funds through banking channels from the FL-10A license holders falsely showing as unsecured loan and kept as FD. He has also taken kickbacks from major Country liquor suppliers in the guise of business transactions and kept the money with him. The underlying business transactions shown have been found to be completely bogus.

ED is conducting investigation in the liquor scam which ran between 2019 to 2022 in which corruption was done in multiple ways:

- **PART-A Commission:** Bribe was collected from the distillers per each Case of liquor procured from them by the CSMCL (State body for purchase and sale of liquor).
- **PART-B Kacha liquor sale:** Sale of unaccounted kacha off-the-books Country Liquor. In this case, not even a single rupee reached the State Exchequer, and all the sale proceeds were pocketed by the Syndicate. The illegal liquor was sold from State-run shops only.
- **PART-C commission:** Bribes taken from distillers to allow them to make a cartel and have fixed market share.
- **Commission from FL-10A License** Holders who were introduced to earn in Foreign liquor segment also.

ED investigation revealed that Arvind Singh had played active role in Chhattisgarh liquor syndicate and was the right-hand man of Anwar Dhebar and was responsible for supplying of duplicate holograms, collection of cash etc. He was also responsible for supplying liquor bottles without bill to the distillers through his associates. For his role, he had also acquired substantial proceeds of crime. He also received share out of Part-B (unaccounted) liquor sales.

ED investigation has revealed that Chhattisgarh Liquor scam resulted in massive loss to the State Exchequer and filled the pockets of the beneficiaries of the Liquor Syndicate with more than Rs 2100 Crore illegal Proceeds of Crime.

Earlier, Anil Tuteja, Ex-IAS officer was also arrested by ED in the matter. ED has already attached 18 movable & 161 immovable properties worth approx. Rs. 205.49 Crore in the ongoing investigation of liquor scam which also includes 33 properties in respect of Arvind Singh worth Rs. 12.99 Crore and 9 properties in respect of Trilok Singh Dhillon worth Rs. 28.13 Crore.

Further investigation is under progress.