



Press Release

19.07.2024

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Dehradun has provisionally attached assets totaling to Rs. 9.67 Crore (approx.) on 18/07/2024 in the form of movable and immovable assets in the case of sale of illegal drugs by Banmeet Singh, Parvinder Singh and others under the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of a Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT) request from US authorities, citing cross-border criminal activities under the provisions of PMLA, 2002. Banmeet Singh, Parvinder Singh and others operated an international drug trafficking group known as the Singh DTO (Drug Trafficking Organization). They used darkweb vendor sites, free ads on regular websites, and a network of distributors to sell drugs in countries like USA and UK. The organization received proceeds from drug sales in crypto currency through dark web markets and then laundered these funds into real currency via bank accounts. Both brothers used the alias "Liston" on various dark web platforms including Silk Road 1, Alpha Bay, and Hansa.

Search operations were conducted on 26/4/2024 and 1/5/2024 at locations linked to the Singh brothers. Subsequently, Parvinder Singh and Banmeet Singh were arrested on 27/04/2024 and 29/07/2024, respectively under the PMLA, 2002. During the ED custody, another search under PMLA was conducted at Haldwani which resulted in the recovery of 268 Bitcoins which is equivalent to more than Rs 130 Crore. They are currently in judicial custody at Suddhowala Jail, Dehradun.

Further investigations is under progress.