



Press Release

05.06.2023

Consequent to the arrest of Ramees K.T, king-pin of gold smuggling syndicate, through Trivandrum International Airport under the guise of diplomatic baggage of UAE Consulate, the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has filed third charge sheet. He was arrested by the ED on 05.04.2023 and continues to be under Judicial Custody. During the course of his interrogation, he was *inter-alia* confronted with more than 2000 voice memos of Telegram chats between him and his associates involved in the above smuggling. Ramees K.T had divulged the names of various investors who have sponsored the gold smuggling including persons from Dubai and also names of some of the beneficiaries. Investigation conducted revealed that 27 accused persons were found to be involved in the offence of Money Laundering who have been charge sheeted now.

Earlier, P.S. Sarith, Sandeep Nair & M. Sivasankar and Smt. Swapna Prabha Suresh were arrested by the ED in this case. In addition to the above, two Provisional Attachment Orders for attachment of various movable properties to the extent of Rs.16.80 Crore were issued. Apart from the above, charge sheets have been filed against them praying for their punishment under section 4 of PMLA, 2002 as well as for confiscation of the properties involved in the offence of Money Laundering, in which cognizance has already been taken by the Hon'ble Court.

Moreover, third Provisional Attachment Order for attachment various movable & immovable properties totally worth Rs.4.65 Crore has been issued now. The above properties were also included in the present charge sheet with a prayer for confiscation under PMLA, 2002. Including the present attachment, the total attachment of properties in this case till date comes to Rs. 21.50 Crore.