



Press Release

19.01.2022

Enforcement Directorate has filed a Prosecution Complaint on 15.01.2022 under Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 before the Hon'ble Special Judge (PMLA), Kolkata against Debabrata Halder, National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) officials and others, in the case of Sudhangshu Kumar Halder & Others related to loss of Rs. 173.50 Crore to NSIC, caused due to wrongful invocation of Bank Guarantees/ invocation of Fake Bank Guarantees. The cognizance of offence under PMLA was also been taken by the Hon'ble Court on the same date.

ED initiated money laundering investigation on the basis of FIR registered by the CID, West Bengal. There is a total loss of Rs 173.50 Crore to NSIC/Bank lent under its Raw Material Assistance Scheme (RMA Scheme) through criminal conspiracy by submitting Bank Guarantees (BGs) of other unconnected entities and fake BGs, purported to be issued by various branches of the erstwhile United Bank of India, Kolkata which came to fore when these were enforced by NSIC. RMA scheme has been devised to provide credit facilities to various needy MSME firms. The funds of NSIC obtained under its RMA Scheme, was laundered/ diverted through accounts of various fictitious supplier firms with the active connivance of Debabrata Halder (Middle Man), Utpal Sarkar and Rahul Paul (Beneficial Owner of fictitious MSME & Supplier firm) along with the then officials of NSIC and UBI. Non Bailable Warrants (NBWs) have been issued against Utpal Sarkar and Rahul Paul by the Hon'ble PMLA Special Court.

Debabrata Halder was arrested on 17.11.2021 and was remanded for ED custody for 14 days. Presently, he is under judicial custody.

Further investigation is under progress.
