Press Release
03.01.2025

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Kolkata Zonal Office has provisionally attached immovable assets worth Rs. 3.65 Crore belonging to Chandranath Sinha, MLA and Minister-in-Charge for Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Textiles and Correctional Administration, West Bengal under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 on 31.12.2025 in the **Primary Teachers Recruitment Scam**.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR registered by the CBI under various Sections of Indian Penal Code, 1860 & Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 in the matter of illegal appointment of Primary Teachers, offering appointment to the undeserving, non-listed and below ranked candidates and depriving the deserving and genuine candidates without maintaining fairness, in criminal conspiracy with each other by flouting the relevant Rules. The FIR was registered by the CBI on the directions of the Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta.

Earlier, a Prosecution Complaint was filed on 06.08.2025 against Chandranath Sinha being the 6th Supplementary Prosecution Complaint in the case for committing offence of money laundering before the Hon'ble Special Court (PMLA), Kolkata. A search conducted at the residential premises of Chandranath Sinha on 22.03.2024 had earlier led to seizure of cash amounting to Rs. 41 Lakh and other incriminating records. Investigation further revealed large cash deposits in the bank accounts controlled by Chandranath Sinha. During investigation, it is revealed that Chandranath Sinha used his family members as front for acquiring immovable properties in their names in area around Bolpur, Birbhum which have been provisionally attached.

Earlier, ED recovered and seized cash of Rs. 49.80 Crore and gold jewellery worth Rs. 5.08 Crore in this case during searches conducted at premises of Smt. Arpita Mukherjee, a close associate of Parth Chatterjee, MLA & Ex-Minister In-Charge, Education, West Bengal.

ED had earlier arrested seven persons including Partha Chatterjee the then Minister In charge of Education Department, Government of West Bengal and his close associate Ms. Arpita Mukherjee. In this case, a total of 6 Provisional attachment Orders (PAOs) amounting to Rs. 95 Crore (approx.) have already been issued. The latest provisional attachment takes the total property attached to more than Rs. 98.65 Crore.

Further, the ED has filed Prosecution Complaint dated 19.09.2022 followed by 6 Supplementary Complaints dated 07.12.2022, 21.03.2023, 08.05.2023, 28.07.2023, 30.11.2024 and 06.08.2025 in the case against various accused persons/entities. Charges have been framed in the case against 54 persons/ entities including Partha Chatterjee, MLA & Ex- Minister In Charge of Education, West Bengal, Ms. Arpita Mukherjee, Manik Bhattacharya, MLA and trial is underway before the Ld. Special Court.

Further, the total seizure and attachment in the PTRS case at present stand at **Rs. 154.91 Crore** (approx.) which is held in the name of accused persons and related entities.

In related cases of SSC Asst. Teacher Recruitment & Group 'C' & 'D' Staff Recruitment Scams, ED has attached properties worth **Rs. 486 Crore** *(approx.).* The total attachment by ED Kolkata in recruitment scam cases stands at **Rs. 641 Crore** *(approx.)*

Further Investigation is under progress.