Press Release
02.06.2026

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Kolkata Zonal Office has arrested Santanu Sinha Biswas on 14.05.2026 and Biswajit Podder @ Sona Pappu on 19.05.2026 under section 19(1) of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 in connection with a money laundering investigation relating to Biswajit Podder @ Sona Pappu & others. Santanu Sinha Biswas, Ex-DCP, Kolkata Police and Sona Pappu were produced before the Hon'ble Special Court, Bichar Bhavan, Kolkata on 15.05.2026 on 19.05.2026, which granted 14 days' and 10 days' custody respectively to ED for further investigation. After the completion of the ED custody, both the accused persons have been sent to Judicial Custody. Earlier ED had also arrested Jay S. Kamdar under section 19(1) of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 in the case.

ED initiated investigation against Biswajit Podder @ Sona Pappu and others on the basis of multiple FIRs registered by West Bengal Police/ Kolkata Police under various Sections of the IPC, 1860 and the Arms Act, 1959. The accused persons including Biswajit Podder @ Sona Pappu were engaged in organized criminal syndicate activities in the state of West Bengal and generated huge funds illegally by way of syndicate operations. Biswajit Podder @ Sona Pappu is also wanted by Police in a case of violence in Kankulia road near Golpark of Kolkata and was on the run. ED had earlier issued summons to Sona Pappu, however, he failed to join the investigation earlier.

Earlier, ED had conducted searches at multiple premises on 01.04.2026, 19.04.2026 and 26.04.2026 in Kolkata & nearby places including the residential premises of Biswajit Podder @ Sona Pappu, Shri Santanu Sinha Biswas, Ex-Deputy Commissioner of Police, Jay S. Kamdar, etc. and seized incriminating documents and digital devices.

Investigation revealed that Jay S Kamdar had engaged in dubious financial transactions with Biswajit Poddar @ Sona Pappu. He had also supplied firearms to wife of Sona Pappu @ Biswajit Poddar namely Smt. Soma Sonar Poddar; however, she has failed to disclose anything relating to the said purchase of the firearms from Jay S. Kamdar or his company. During the earlier searches,cash amounting to Rs. 1.47 Crore (approx.) and gold jewellery & silver, one Fortuner vehicle and unlicensed one Gun (Revolver) along with a number of incriminating documents and digital devices were seized from premises linked with Sona Pappu, Jay S. Kamdar and other related persons. Several immovable properties in the form of land, buildings, etc. were also identified, which appear to have been obtained through criminal activities.

Investigation under PMLA revealed that Jay S Kamdar was in close contact with many police officials including Santanu Sinha Biswas and was providing favours and expensive “Gifts” to such officers, including their family members. Investigation has also revealed that Jay S. Kamdar wielded considerable clout and influence among a section of police officers and misused it for getting favours and lodging of complaints against unsuspecting individuals in land related matters. The documents & digital evidence seized show that Jay S Kamdar and his associates have been habitually engaging in a systematic and premeditated course of conduct with the intention to unlawfully acquire valuable immovable properties from lawful owners.

Earlier, ED had also conducted searches at the premises linked to Santanu Sinha Biswas, Deputy Commissioner of Police on 19.04.2026 and seized incriminating documents. During the search at his residential premises, Santanu Sinha Biswas remained unavailable. Subsequently, Santanu Sinha Biswas was issued summons to join the investigation, however, he failed to appear before the ED earlier. Investigation has revealed that Santanu Sinha Biswas was a Police Officer of Kolkata Police, occupying the post of Deputy Commissioner of Police (SB). He appears to have facilitated Jay Kamdar in his illegal activities in exchange of monetary benefits for himself and his family members. Investigation has also revealed that Santanu Sinha was the Chief Coordinator and Nodal Officer of the West Bengal & Kolkata Police Welfare Committees *(now dissolved)*, a unique position offering considerable influence over a substantial number of Police Officers.

ED’s investigation under PMLA has so far revealed that Proceeds of Crime were generated through illegal activities including extortion, grabbing of real estate properties, unauthorized building construction through entities controlled by Biswajit Podder @ Sona Pappu, Jay Kamdar and his associates.

Further investigation is under progress.