Press Release

24.09.2026

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Panaji Zonal Office has provisionally attached immovable property valued at ₹ 4,20,51,486/- vide Provisional Attachment Order (PAO) under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA). The attached property is a land parcel bearing Survey No. 210/5 of Socorro Village (Vaddem Ward), Bardez Taluka, North Goa (Kumarwaddo), admeasuring 5,000 sq. m., comprising eleven plots aggregating 4,086 sq. m. carved out of it and common area of 914 sq. m. serving those plots.

ED initiated investigation under the PMLA on the basis of FIR registered by Porvorim Police Station on the complaint of a legal heir of the owner of the property, for the commission of scheduled offences under the Indian Penal Code including cheating, cheating by personation and using a forged document as genuine. The investigation of the said FIR is being conducted by the Special Investigation Team, Crime Branch, Goa Police.

ED investigation had revealed that the property, which stood in the name of the late father of the complainant, was grabbed by instituting Inventory Proceeding before the competent civil court, in which it was falsely asserted that the father of two sisters residing at Pune was one and the same person as the deceased owner. On the strength of the order so obtained, the property was mutated in the land records in the names of the two sisters. A Power of Attorney dated 17.02.2018 in respect of the property had earlier been obtained from the two sisters and their husbands at Pune by a local resident of Socorro. The investigation further revealed that ₹ 9,00,000/- was remitted through the banking channel to one of the sisters on 22.01.2018 by a person who later purchased plots out of the property - before the Power of Attorney was executed and more than a year before the Inventory Proceeding by which the title was created - the sale of the property having thus been arranged and part-paid before any semblance of title or of authority to sell existed.

The property was thereafter sub-divided, without any planning permission, into eleven plots, which were sold between the years 2018 and 2020 to nine purchasers through a chain of brokers, under sale deeds executed by John Paul Valles as the Power of Attorney holder. Five of those deeds were executed in the year 2018 and recited a devolution upon the vendors by way of an Inventory which had not then taken place. The sale deeds declared an aggregate consideration of ₹ 63,65,000/-, whereas ₹ 1,49,53,000/- (Approx.) was actually paid, largely in cash and through cheques handed over with the name of the payee left blank, the fair market value of the plots conveyed being ₹ 3,43,64,472/-. Earlier, searches were conducted under Section 17 of the PMLA on 04.07.2025 at eight premises in Goa and Pune, and digital devices and documents were seized.

Further investigation is under progress.