Press Release
11.03.2025

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Lucknow Zonal Office, has arrested 02 persons namely Shantanu Gupta and Abdul Wahab Yasir under the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 on 10.03.2025, in connection with M/s Hatsh Telecommunication Pvt Ltd & others. The Hon'ble Special Court (PMLA), Lucknow has granted their ED custody for 02 days.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of complaint and Chargesheets filed by NCB, Lucknow Unit under various sections of NDPS Act, 1985 against accused Shantanu Gupta, Abdul Wahab Yasir and other involved accused persons in the matter of trafficking of psychotropic substances from India to USA.

ED investigation revealed that the accused persons were involved in supplying of banned drug items to US citizens. It has also been revealed that accused persons incorporated 6 companies during 2012-17 and operated a call center from the office of the companies at Lucknow. They used to obtain/get raw data of USA Citizens from the callcentreindia.com and used to identify potential Customers for supplying of restricted/psychotropic medicines. They used to call the USA Citizens through Skype App, upon identification of customers and getting the orders and advance payment, they used to ship the required restricted medicines through Indian Post to the given address in USA.

During the period 2012 to 2017, they received 23.67 Crore in the accounts of their various companies including M/s Hatsh Telecome Pvt. Ltd. During the investigation, movable and immovable properties worth Rs. 3.22 Crore were recognized as POC and attached on 20.10.2023, the same was confirmed by Hon'ble Adjudicating Authority vide order dated 20.03.2024.

Further investigation is under progress.