PRESS RELEASE
30-01-2026

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Bhopal Zonal Office has filed a Prosecution Complaint against Santosh Kumar Sharma, the then In-Charge Principal, Govt. B. Ed College, Chhatarpur, and others under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 before the Hon'ble Special PMLA Court, Bhopal on 28.01.2026. Further, notice for pre-cognizance hearing has been issued against the accused persons.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR registered by the Special Police Establishment, Lokayukta Office, Bhopal before the Hon'ble Special Court, Bhopal against Santosh Kumar Sharma and others under Section 13 (1)(e) r/w 13 (2) of Prevention of Corruption Act,1988.

ED investigation revealed that Santosh Kumar Sharma, while functioning as a public servant criminally misused his official position to acquire assets grossly disproportionate to his known sources of income amounting to Rs. 1,23,32,057/-. It was also revealed that he with his family members were the beneficiary of the Proceeds of Crime and he committed offence of money laundering in relation to the Proceeds of Crime generated from the scheduled offence. During the course of investigation, a Provisional Attachment Order No. 09/2025 dated 29.08.2025 was issued by the ED, Bhopal Zonal Office attaching immovable properties worth Rs. 1,19,09,000/- and movable properties worth Rs. 3,52,571/- totalling to Rs. 1,22,61,571/-.

During the check period, the accused earned legitimate income amounting to Rs. 1,30,27,494/-, whereas his total expenditure and investments were assessed at Rs. 2,53,59,551/-, resulting in disproportionate assets of Rs. 1,23,32,057/-, i.e., approximately 95% in excess of his lawful income. He allegedly acquired substantial movable and immovable properties in his own name as well as in the names of his wife and other family members, indicating attempts to conceal ownership and disguise the illicit origin of funds. Investigation further revealed the use of unaccounted cash, unexplained deposits, and layered financial transactions for acquisition of properties and assets. The accused also incurred significant unverifiable personal and household expenses and attempted to project the proceeds of crime as legitimate by mixing them with limited lawful income. The facts prima facie establish systematic abuse of public office, possession of disproportionate assets, and projection of illicit wealth as untainted property, attracting offences under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and constituting a scheduled offence under the PMLA, 2002.