



Press Release
01.04.2026

Hon'ble Judge, Special Court (PMLA), Lucknow, vide order dated 31.03.2026, has declared Mohd. Iqbal (ex-MLC, Uttar Pradesh) as a Fugitive Economic Offender under Section 12(1) of the Fugitive Economic Offender Act (FEOA), 2018, and directed confiscation of the attached properties valued at Rs. 995.75 Crore to the Central Government under Section 12(2) of the FEOA, 2018. The said was passed by Hon'ble Special Court on the basis of application filed by ED under FEOA, 2018.

ED initiated an investigation based on an FIR registered by the CBI, ACB, Lucknow, under various Sections of IPC, 1860 and the Companies Act, 1956. The FIR alleges that Mohd Iqbal and his associates fraudulently acquired multiple sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh through a manipulated disinvestment process.

During the course of the investigation, it was revealed that Mohd Iqbal deliberately evaded the investigation, failed to appear despite issuance of summonses, and ultimately absconded from India and is currently residing in Dubai, UAE. Despite the issuance of a Non Bailable Warrant, Mohd Iqbal refused to return to India to face the criminal proceedings. Accordingly, ED filed an application seeking his declaration as a Fugitive Economic Offender under FEOA, 2018.

After examining the material placed on record and compliance with statutory provisions, the Hon'ble Court concluded that Mohd Iqbal left India to avoid criminal prosecution, and being abroad, he has refused to return to face legal proceedings. The Court noted that the applicant (ED) has fulfilled the requirements under Section 4(2) of FEOA and Rule 3 of the Fugitive Economic Offenders (Application for Declaration) Rules, 2018.

In view of the facts and evidence, Hon'ble Special Court (PMLA) Lucknow, vide order dated 31.03.2026, declared Mohd Iqbal as a Fugitive Economic Offender, and confiscated attached properties worth Rs. 995.75 Crore, being Proceeds of Crime.