Press release
17.11.2026

ED SECURES EXTRADITION OF FOREIGN NATIONAL FROM ROMANIA IN TORRES JEWELLERY MONEY LAUNDERING CASE

The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has successfully secured the extradition of **Mr. Oleksandr Zapichenko alias Alex**, a foreign national and one of the key accused in the money laundering investigation against M/s Platinum Hern Private Limited, operating under the brand name 'Torres Jewellery', from Romania to India. The three member team from ED has successfully brought back the fugitive from Romania via UAE and landed at Mumbai Airport, at 16:45 hrs on 17.11.2026. The CBI, India's Nodal agency for Interpol related matters facilitated the extradition process and return of a foreign national to India against whom a money laundering prosecution complaint has been filed.

The extradition of Mr Oleksandr Zapichenko @ Alex from Romania marks a significant development in the investigation, demonstrating the sustained efforts of the ED to pursue fugitive accused persons involved in large economic crimes beyond national jurisdictions and bring them back to India to face the process of law.

ED initiated investigation under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, on the basis of FIRs registered by APMC Police Station, Vashi, Navi Mumbai and other Police Stations.

The investigation revealed that M/s Platinum Hern Private Limited, through its 'Torres Jewellery' showrooms, allegedly lured many small and gullible investors into a fraudulent investment scheme by promising exceptionally high returns and referral bonuses, while selling low-value jewellery at grossly inflated prices. Huge cash collections were diverted through Hawala operators and converted into USDT cryptocurrency instead of being utilised for legitimate business purposes. Mr. Alpesh Pravinchandra Khara, acting on the instructions of Mr. Oleksandr Zapichenko alias Alex was arrested by ED on 26.03.2025. The proceeds of crime identified so far have been quantified at **Rs.177.12 crore**, with Mr. Zapichenko emerging as one of the key persons involved in directing the collection and diversion of the funds.

In this case, a prosecution complaint was filed before the Hon'ble Special PMLA Court on 22.05.2025 and the Hon'ble Court took cognizance of the Prosecution Complaint on 29.07.2025. The Hon'ble Special PMLA Court, Mumbai, issued a Non-Bailable Warrant (NBW) on 03.11.2025 against Mr. Oleksandr Zapichenko alias Alex, who was absconding and residing outside India. At the request of ED, an **INTERPOL Red Notice** was published against the accused to facilitate his international tracing and arrest. Pursuant to the international efforts initiated by ED, Mr. Oleksandr Zapichenko was provisionally arrested in Romania on 23.05.2026. Following the extradition proceedings before the competent judicial authorities in Romania, which included timely responses from ED to Romanian authorities, the extradition of Mr Oleksandr Zapicheno was ordered by the Hon'ble Court of Bucharest and further upheld by the Bucharest Court of Appeals.

The successful extradition is the culmination of sustained efforts by ED, involving international coordination, inter-governmental cooperation and legal proceedings across jurisdictions. The Directorate extends its gratitude to the Government of Romania and NCB Bucharest reinforcing the shared commitment of both countries to combat transnational money laundering and organised crime. The Directorate also extends it's compliments to UAE Authorities for ensuring smooth transit and to the other stakeholders, such as CBI (NCB India) being nodal agency, Ministry of External affairs etc. for smooth coordination in the process.





Further investigation is in progress.