

ECIR/HIU-I/02/2026

Directorate of Enforcement Vs. Shanti Kiran Dandamudi

I.A. No. 02/2026

08.05.2026

Present: Sh. Simon Benjamin Ld. Special PP for ED.
Sh. Amit, Assistant Director (PMLA).
Sh. Sahil, Assistant Enforcement Officer.
Sh. Rachet M Sahijpal, Keshvam Punj and Ms.
Pooja Ld. Counsel for the arestee.

The arestee was produced before the court at 3:10
pm.
Arguments on the application heard. Put up for
orders.

(ANKUR JAIN-I)
ASJ-04/Central/Delhi.
07.05.2026

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At 3:40 pm.

1. By this order I shall decide the application filed on behalf of Directorate of Enforcement u/s 187 (2) or BNSS 2023 r/w Section 65 of PMLA seeking custody of Shanti Kiran Dandamudi for 7 days.
2. Ld. Spl. PP for Directorate of Enforcement has argued that Shanti Kiran Dandamudi is the wife of D.V. Rao and used to manage the affairs of Saravanthi Energy Pvt. Ltd. (SEPL) and an amount of Rs. 1,45,00,000/- were credited in her bank account and subsequently transferred in the account of her husband. It is stated that she along with her husband had purchased various properties, jewellery with the funds withdrawn in cash.

3. On the other hand, Ld. Counsel for the accused submits that applicant was only following the instructions of Sh. D.V. Rao and is nowhere part of the conspiracy.

4. I have heard Ld. Counsels for the parties and perused the record.

5. Section 19 of PMLA requires that an arrest of the accused has to be on basis of some material in possession of competent officer and on the basis of the said material he should have reasons to believe that such person has been guilty of an offence, the said vision has to be recorded in writing.

6. In the present case the Directorate of Enforcement by conducting the investigation with respect to the commission of offence of money laundering in connection with ECIR/HIU-1/34/2025 dated 17.11.2025 while conducting search at the premises of SEPL. Original stamps and blank letter heads of several bogus suppliers were recovered from the office of SEPL and around 100 bogus firms were identified. Information was shared with the jurisdictional police u/s 66(2) of PMLA and FIR bearing no. 336/2025 dated 27.12.2025 was registered against D.V.Rao & Ors. at PS DLF, Phase-III, Gurugram. As per the FIR SEPL has been paying Rs. 75 Lakhs per month to Verset Technologies under the guide of consultancy for several years and approx. Rs. 89 Crores has been illicitly diverted by SEPL from 2016-2017 to 2024-2025.

7. The application filed by Directorate of Enforcement reveals that a sum of Rs. 1,45,00,000/- has been transferred to her account which were subsequently transferred to D.V.Rao and the present applicant is required to be confronted with various statements as well as Digital evidence.

8. I have perused the grounds of arrest, the reasons to believe for arrest. In view of the facts and circumstances this court is of the opinion that provisions of Section 19 of the PMLA relating to the arrest of the applicant in this case has been substantially complied with. Keeping in view the nature of allegations leveled against the applicant and the role of accused in commission of the alleged offence there is a need for remanding him to the custody of ED for purpose of investigation. Hence, the accused is remanded to the custody of ED till 12.05.2026 for the purpose of detailed and sustained interrogation and shall be produced before the court on or before 2:00 pm. on that day. The directorate of Enforcement shall comply with the guidelines laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in case of *Paramvir Singh Saini Vs. Baljeet Singh & Ors. 2021 1 SCC 184*. The application moved by the IO seeking custody of accused stands disposed off. Copy of the order be given dasti to the both the parties. The ED shall comply with all the legal provisions contained under PMLA, Cr.P.C. or any other applicable enactment.

(ANKUR JAIN-I)
ASJ-04/Central/Delhi.
08.05.2026

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