

ECIR/HIU-I/02/2026
Directorate of Enforcement Vs. Shanti Kiran Dandamudi
I.A. No.: 03/26

12.05.2026

Present: Sh. Simon Benjamin Ld. Special PP for ED.
Sh. Amit, Assistant Director (PMLA).
Sh. Manu Sharma, Ld. Senior Advocate along with
Sh. Sachet Sahijpal, Vaibhav Tomar, Kartik
Khanna, Prabhjot Singh, 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.
12.05.2026

At 3:30 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 14 days.

2. Ld. Spl. PP for Directorate of Enforcement has argued that the custody of Shanti Kiran Dandamudi was granted by this court vide order dated 08.05.2026. It is submitted that at this stage, she may be remanded to judicial custody. It is submitted that investigation is at the initial stage. There is apprehension that arrestee has not disclosed complete information with respect to the role of the other persons. The information extracted from various digital devices is being analyzed for identifying the other

beneficiaries and her custodial interrogation may be necessitated in future.

3. On the other hand, Ld. Senior Advocate for accused submits that the applicant has duly cooperated with the investigating agencies. The documents / devices have been seized and there is no requirement for her judicial custody.

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 she should have reasons to believe that such person has been guilty of an offence, the said reason has to be recorded in writing.

6. In the present case Smt. Shanti Kiran Dandamudi is the wife of D.V. Rao and used to manage the affairs of Saravanthi Energy Pvt. Ltd. (SEPL). 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 It is stated that she along with her husband had purchased various properties, jewellery with the funds withdrawn in cash.

7. 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 guise of consultancy for several years and approx. Rs. 89 Crores has been illicitly diverted by SEPL from 2016-2017 to 2024-2025.

8. 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.

9. 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.

10. Keeping in view the nature of allegations and the role of the arrestee in commission of the alleged offence there is a need for granting judicial custody. Hence, arrestee / accused is remanded to judicial custody till 26.05.2026

11. Be produced before this court on 26.05.2026 at 2:00 pm.

12. Application stands disposed off accordingly.

13. Copy of the order be sent to concerned Jail Superintendent and be given dasti to the counsel for the arrestee and the IO.

(ANKUR JAIN-I)
ASJ-04/Central/Delhi.
12.05.2026

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