PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY & ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, BANNING OF UNREGULATED DEPOSIT SCHEMES ACT UNDER SECTION 7(3) OF THE BUDS ACT (2019)

PRESENT: Sri. BISHWANATH SINHA IAS

HOME (SC) DEPARTMENT

SC3/341/2023-Home Dated, Thiruvananthapuram (27-03-2025)

- Sub: Home Department Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Act, 2019 Provisional attachment of all movable & immovable properties of Chemmannur Nidhi Limited, Ambika Arcade, MG Road, Thrissur -Orders Reissued.
- Ref: 1) G.O(P) No. 69/2020/Home, dated 18.12.2020 published as S.R.O No.887/2020.
 - 2) G.O(Rt) No.2959/2020/Home, dated 22.12.2020 published as S.R.O No. 894/2020.
 - 3) Proceedings No: SC3/341/2023/Home Dated, 21-11-2023.
 - 4) Letter No. DCTSR/10485/2020-C8 dated 01/07/2024 from the District Collector, Thrissur.
 - 5) Proceedings No: SC3/341/2023/Home Dated, 31/07/2024.
 - 6) Judgment in WP(C)No.22737/2024-Home dated 05/11/2024 by the Hon.High Court of Kerala.
 - 7) Letter No.DCTSR/10253/2023-C8 dated 28/11/2024 from the District Collector, Thrissur.
 - 8) Judgment in Crl.M.P. 4358/2024 & Crl. M.P. 4359/2024 dated 28.01.2025 of the Additional Sessions Court III, Thrissur.

ORDER

A crime case No. 1302/2022 u/s 406, 420, 34 IPC and section 3 r/w 21(1) (2) (3) and 5 r/w 23 of BUDS Act was registered against the Company Chemmanur Nidhi Ltd for accepting deposits offering 12 % interest from various persons and for defaulting its repayment. Around 56 cases have been registered against the firm and its Directors in Thrissur East Police Station and around 2.5 Crores is found swindled by the accused Jaison Chemmannur from the depositors.

The company has been registered with Registrar of Companies, Ernakulum and the Registrar of Companies has informed that the Company has not filed NDH - 4 as stipulated by Rule 3 A of Nidhi Rules, 2014 for declaring it as a Nidhi company.

The details of the Directors as follows:

- 1) M/s Chemmannoor Nidhi Ltd, Ambika Arcade, MG Road, Thrissur represented by the Managing Director, Jaison Chemmannoor.
- 2) Jaison Chemmannoor, S/o Thomas, Chemmannoor House, Perakom, Thrissur.
- 3) Abhilash S/o Pushkaran, 11/249 Kanaressery House, Manathala, Chavakkad P.O Thrissur.
- 4) Sabhitha W/o Abhilash 11/249, Kanaressery House, Manathala Chavakkad P.O Thrissur.

During the investigation it is found that the accused Jaison has registered the company in the name of Chemmannoor Nidhi Ltd before Registrar of Companies on 28.06.2018 and Abhilash S/o Pushkaran, 11/249 Kanaressery House Manathala Chavakkad P.O Thrissur,

Sabhitha W/o Abhilash, 11/249 Kanaressery House, Manathala Chavakkad P.O Thrissur etc were included in the list of Directors. As per the Memorandum of Association, the object of company is only for lending loans to the members on the security of immovable properties either by way of registered mortgage or by deposit or by deposit of title deed, various types of deposit receipts, movable assets such as Gold, Silver, Jewellery, Kisan Vikas Patras, National Savings Certificate, Insurance policies etc.

The investigation revealed that Chemmannur Nidhi Limited with deliberate intention of cheating the public used the money obtained under the Recurring Deposit Schemes, fixed deposits etc and purchased immovable properties in the name of the accused and his wife.

The accused received Recurring Deposits, long and short term deposits, Gold pledged deposits etc from the investors through wide publicity by promising higher returns and given to the investors fake certificates for their deposits and thus violated the provisions of Nidhi Rules, 2014.

Since the firm had accepted deposits offering profit and subsequently failed to return the amount as promised, provisional attachment order as per 3rd paper above was issued attaching the properties of the above firm.

The District Collector , Thrissur vide letter 4th paper above requested to issue new provisional attachment order as they failed to file the confirmation of temporary attachment of all the movable and immovable properties of Chemmanur Nidhi Ltd before the Designated court within the stipulated time. Accordingly the above provisional

attachment was reissued vide reference 5th cited.

Now the District Collector, Thrissur vide letter 7th paper above has informed they could not file the application under section 14 of the BUDS Act before the Designated Court within the stipulated time frame as additional properties found by the Investigation Officer after the initial attachment of the properties needs to be attached. The District Collector, Thrissur has requested to reissue the proceedings again.

As per the judgment in reference 6th cited, the Hon'ble High Court directed the Additional Sessions Court III, Thrissur, to determine whether the Competent Authority is permitted to initiate fresh proceedings or re-issue a previously issued provisional attachment order.

In compliance with this directive, the Additional Sessions Court III, Thrissur, in its judgment in reference 8th cited , held that the Competent Authority is fully justified in reissuing the provisional attachment order.

Therefore, it is concluded that there are no legal impediments to reissuing a provisional attachment order in cases where the application for making the order absolute was not filed before the respective designated courts within the prescribed time.

Therefore, in the exercise of powers conferred under Section 7(3) of the BUDS Act, 2019, I hereby reissue the proceedings referred to as the 3rd paper above to safeguard the interests of innocent depositors. Accordingly, all movable and immovable properties, along with any deposits held by the Deposit Taker, as well as any money or property

acquired either in the name of the Deposit Taker or in the name of any other person on their behalf, are hereby attached again.

The Inspector General of the Registration Department is hereby directed to freeze the sale, mortgage, or any other transaction of immovable properties of the firm and the Deposit Taker, if not already done. The Transport Commissioner, Motor Vehicles Department, is directed to seize all vehicles owned by the firm, the Deposit Taker, its partners, or allied firms and to take necessary steps to prohibit the transfer of vehicle registrations and report to the respective District Collectors, if not already done.

The Lead Bank Managers of all Districts concerned/Registrar of Cooperative Societies/General Managers of KSFE/ District Managers of KFC and all other financial institutions are directed to take necessary steps to freeze all the accounts of the financial institution and its allied firms. Police Authorities shall identify the accounts of the firm and the deposit takers and take action to freeze the accounts by intimating the provisional attachment orders to the respective Banks where the accounts are maintained. The Police shall also report the details of the current/ any future accused persons from time to time directly to the concerned District Collectors for provisionally attaching the properties within the stipulated time limit.

The District Collectors appointed as officers to assist the Competent Authority under section 7(2) of BUDS Act are directed to serve the copy of the provisional attachment to the owner of the property or any person who claims to be in possession of the property or any other person who has an interest in the said property and to prepare and maintain details of the properties so attached and the expenditure

incurred in this regard.

The District Collectors are further directed to publish the order of provisional attachment in a leading newspaper, both in Malayalam and English, having wide circulation in the area or jurisdiction in which the Deposit Taker is located.

The District Collectors appointed as officers to assist the Competent Authority under section 7(2) of BUDS Act are directed to issue attachment orders separately against the properties of the accused and file application with particulars of the attachment effected before the Designated Courts constituted read as 2nd paper above, of the respective District, within the stipulated time of 30 days for making the provisional attachment absolute and for permission to sell the property so attached by public auction or, if necessary, by private sale according to section 14 of BUDS Act, 2019.

The above order shall not be applicable to districts where the designated courts have already confirmed the provisional attachment order. In such cases, the District Collectors shall proceed with the sale of properties in accordance with Section 14 of the BUDS Act.

(Sd.)

BISHWANATH SINHA

Forwarded/By order

Section Officer.

To:

The State Police Chief

All District Collectors

The Additional Director General of Police (Crimes)

The Inspector General of Police (EOW), Police Headquarters

All District Police Chiefs

The Inspector General of Registration Department

The Transport Commissioner

The Registrar of Co-operative Societies

The Lead Bank Managers.

General Managers of KSFE/District Managers of KFC(through

District Collectors)

I & PR (Web & New Media) Department.

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