Press Release
01.11.2026

Directorate of Enforcement, Lucknow Zonal Office, has arrested Mohammad Azam Khan, founder of Maulana Mohammad Ali Jauhar Trust and Chancellor of Mohammad Ali Jauhar University, Rampur, on 31.10.2026 under the provisions of the PMLA, 2002, in the Money Laundering case. He has been sent to judicial custody for 14 days by the Hon'ble Special PMLA Court, Ghaziabad.

ED investigation was initiated on the basis 26 FIRs registered by UP Police at PS Azeem Nagar, Rampur in July 2019 against Mohammad Azam Khan and others under sections 323, 342, 384, 447, 504 and 506 of IPC, 1860, alleging that agricultural land of farmers of village Singankhera, Rampur was forcibly occupied for the University. It is alleged that the farmers were coerced through assault, unlawful confinement and threats into executing sale deeds in its favour.

During the investigation, ED found that the funds and material meant for public works were diverted to the University, Government works were executed on its private campus, and funds from contractors who had been allotted Govt contracts were routed back to the Trust as donations. On ED's information, a FIR under the provisions of BNS, 2023 and the PC Act, 1988 was registered on 13.10.2026, and 28 other FIRs registered at Rampur for robbery, extortion, cheating and forgery were also taken up for investigation.

In this case, ED has also provisionally attached the land and buildings of the University, held by the Trust, to the extent of Rs. 426.46 crore under the provisions of PMLA on 28.10.2026. The present value of the attached property is around Rs. 1170 crore.

Earlier, searches were conducted by ED in August 2026 under the provisions of PMLA at the premises of the University and related premises at Rampur. During the course of the search, incriminating documents and electronic devices were seized.

Further investigation is under progress.