Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR)

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Enforcement Case Information Report Latest News

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) recently registered an Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) against 29 individuals, including actors, television hosts, social media influencers, and YouTubers, for allegedly promoting illegal betting applications.

About Enforcement Case Information Report

- The ECIR is a **formal entry of the complaint lodged by** the Enforcement Directorate (**ED**).
- Whenever the ED receives information about the commission of an offence of money laundering, it is converted into a formal report known as the ECIR.
- It serves as a **starting point for ED's proceedings, including** the **attachment of assets and arrests.**
- There is **no mention of the ECIR in** the **Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002** (PMLA Act), or Rules.
- Since the PMLA does not necessitate the registration of ECIR, it is c**onsidered a non-statutory document.**
- However, as per the practice of ED, the **ECIR is lodged before taking any action under the PMLA Act.**

- The ECIR under the PMLA Act is **similar to the** First Information Report **(FIR) lodged by the Police** for cognizable offences.
- However, the **Supreme Court held that an ECIR cannot be equated with an FIR**, which is mandatorily required to be recorded and supplied to the accused.
- **As per the ED, ECIR** is a document meant for identification of a particular case and for departmental convenience and is **purely an internal document.**
- **ED is not legally bound to provide a copy of the ECIR to the accused.**
- Since ECIR **lacks statutory status**, there is **no requirement to quash them.**

Key Facts about Enforcement Directorate

- The **Directorate of Enforcement** or Enforcement Directorate (ED) is a domestic **law enforcement agency** and **economic intelligence agency.**
- It was **established** in the year **1956** with its **Headquarters at New Delhi.**
- It is responsible for **enforcing economic laws and fighting economic crimes** in India.
- It is responsible for inspecting and taking legal action involving economic crimes, **money laundering, corruption, and breaches of foreign exchange laws.**
- **Nodal Ministry: Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance**
- **Objectives** of the ED: The prime objective of the Enforcement Directorate is the **enforcement of three key Acts** of the Government of India, namely:
  - **Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA),**
  - **Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA), and**
  - **Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018 (FEOA).**

Source: TH
