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I-T officials attach DKS properties worth ₹75 cr.

'We have proof that land was purchased in other names'

STAFF REPORTER
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Income Tax officials have provisionally attached multiple properties worth ₹75 crore in the case against Karnataka Minister D.K. Shivakumar under The Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Act, 1988, sources said. This is the first time properties of a Minister have been identified and attached under this Act in the State.

Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax and Director General (IT Investigations), Karnataka and Goa, B.R. Balakrishna, addressing media on Saturday, while re-



D.K. Shivakumar

fusing to name the Minister, said: "These properties include agricultural land and buildings. We have clear evi-

dence that the land was purchased in other names using cash. The source of funding for these purchases are also not in the clear, hence treated as benami properties," he said.

However, he added the department had only provisionally attached these properties and not yet launched a prosecution in the case.

Mr. Shivakumar and his associates were raided by sleuths of the I-T Department in August 2017 which "led to a substantial seizure of cash 11.86 crore and disclosure of undeclared income of ₹429.32 crore."