

29 years an accused, 12 years a convict — and now a free man

Pragynesh
Muzaffarnagar, New Delhi, November 23

MOHD SHAHID remembers clearly the words his father said to him as he left home in Ludhiana for Ghaziabad in April 2013. “*Aaj ya toh bahar, ya hamesha keliye andar* (Either I will be out, or be imprisoned forever).” Then 17, Shahid barely understood what Mohammad Ilyas meant. Over the next 12-and-a-half years, he would be reminded of it every day.

He is grateful the second part of Ilyas’s prediction will not come true.

Ten days ago, the Allahabad High Court acquitted Ilyas in the 1996 Ghaziabad bus blast case, which left 18 dead — 29 years after charges were first framed against him, and 12 years after he was jailed following a life sentence. Lodged in Dasna Jail, Ilyas is yet to be released, though the family says it has submitted the required documents.

Forced to start working after Ilyas’s imprisonment, Shahid, 30, took up carpentry, like his father. The work often takes him to Muzaffarnagar, the town from where Ilyas had moved to Punjab.

A part of the family still lives in the Meerapur area of Muzaf-

farnagar, past the main bazar with its shops selling everything from sweets and clothes, to meat and auto- repair parts. A lane leads from a medical store towards what the locals refer to as the ‘Old Kotla Colony’. The colony is still registered as Ilyas’s permanent residence on some of his documents.

Islamuddin, 70, among the few people who remembers Ilyas in the area, also struggles to place him – till the blast is mentioned. He gives directions to a “sheesha wala ghar (a house with glass panels)” near a mosque.

Wareena, 48, who lives at the house, says she is the wife of Ilyas’s younger brother Akhlaq. She hasn’t seen Ilyas since his arrest in 2013, she adds.

Like Ilyas and Shahid, Akhlaq is a carpenter and also works in Ludhiana. Wareena has heard about Ilyas’s acquittal. “My husband told me over the phone. I think it’s the first time he mentioned him in years. Ilyas and his family moved to Ludhiana in 1996 or 1997, but he used to come every month,” she says.

Till 2003, when he first came out on bail following his arrest for the blast in 1996, Ilyas had a house in Muzaffarnagar.

He then sold it off and, for the next 10 years, eked out a living doing carpentry work in Ludhiana, travelling to Ghaziabad for court hearings. In April 2013, came the life sentence from the trial court.

Shahid, who has four sisters, says he was in Class 10 when Ilyas was sentenced. He was taken aback, the 30-year-old says. “He never talked about the case in front of us. We just knew he had a ‘case.’”

With the family struggling to make ends meet, Shahid left school, started learning carpentry. “Most of the family turned us away in the initial years. Only our mama (maternal uncle) helped,” he says.

Ilyas’s wife Bushra took up tailoring work, while one of the sisters got a job as a school teacher. “By 2018, we were a little stable. I was earning okay. We then started to push the lawyers for my father’s release.”

That was not easy. They got their first ray of hope when, in 2023, Shahid met Danish Arbaz, a lawyer at the Allahabad High Court. “Arbaz was clear. He said there was a one in a million chance that my father would be released, but that we had to be very patient... My father was among the most patient, I don’t remember him

talking much about getting out, or getting desperate.”

Arbaz says there was no case against Ilyas, as no concrete evidence had ever been found. “They recovered train tickets for Jammu, where Ilyas went some weeks before the blast, to claim he was influenced by terrorists in Kashmir. Ilyas has relatives in Jammu, and he would go there regularly. That can’t be the basis of proving someone a terrorist,” says Arbaz.

‘If a man can generate electricity... can make a bomb’

The blast for which Ilyas was convicted went off on a bus near the Ghaziabad bus stand on April 27, 1996, leaving 18 dead and 48 injured. The bus was travelling from Delhi to Roorkee, and Ilyas was accused of planting the bomb before it left Delhi.

More than a year later, on June 8, 1997, the UP Police arrested Ilyas from Ludhiana. His statement was recorded by the investigating officer in the presence of his father Sirajuddin and brother on June 8, 1997, in which he admitted that he, along with Abdul Mateen, had planted the bomb in Delhi, be-

fore the bus set off. Apart from the rail tickets, police claimed to have recovered a diary from Ilyas as “proof”.

Mateen was said to be a citizen of Pakistan, and Ilyas’s co-conspirator. Police said the Rajasthan Police had arrested Mateen under the Foreigners’ Act, for being in India without proper immigration papers.

In 2013, the trial court convicted Ilyas and Mateen of murder, criminal conspiracy, and under the Explosive Substances Act, but acquitted another accused Tasleem, who was alleged to be a “go-between”.

As per a report by The Indian Express at the time, the Ghaziabad court took note of Mateen’s admission that “long ago, I had developed a new technique to generate electricity by properly utilising the laws of physics” “... if a man can generate electricity, he can make a bomb with ease”,” the court held.

The Express also reported that, during the trial, Ilyas denied making a confession.

As per another Indian Express report, Mateen was also sentenced to life in a terror case in Rajasthan, but was acquitted in cases lodged against him in Madhya Pradesh and Punjab. Police said they had arrested Mateen from Anantnag in J&K,

and that he had confessed” to involvement in several blasts.

In its November 10 order acquitting Ilyas, the Allahabad High Court noted that the railway ticket and diary seized from him did not prove his involvement in the blast. The court said Ilyas’s confession was not admissible either, as it was recorded only before police. While this was accepted while the TADA Act was still in place, the court pointed out that the provision had lapsed by the time of the 1996 blast.

“The TADA Act was allowed to lapse in 1995 due to allegations of misuse, and as the present offence was registered on 27.04.1996 i.e. after 1995, when provisions of TADA Act were lifted... the confession recorded by (a) Senior Police Officer at the time of investigation cannot be permitted to be proved under the law,” the Division Bench of Justice Siddharth and Justice Ram Manohar Narayan Mishra said.

About the prosecution witnesses, the court noted that “they have outrightly disowned their statements”.

They added that they were acquitting Ilyas with a “heavy heart”, and slammed the prosecution for “miserably failing to prove the charges”.

CA’S MURDER IN KOLKATA HOTEL Delivery agent and woman last seen entering his room held

Tanusree Bose
Kolkata, November 23

A DELIVERY agent and a woman, both in their 20s, have been arrested in connection with the death of a Chartered Accountant, whose naked body was found with legs tied, in a hotel room in south Kolkata’s Kasba area on Saturday.

Police on Sunday identified the two arrested persons as Dhruvo Mitra, a delivery agent from Nadia, and Kamal Saha, from Barrackpore.

According to police, Dhruvo Mitra and Kamal Saha were seen in the CCTV footage of the hotel entering CA Adarsh Losalalka’s hotel room at 9 pm on Friday and leaving his room, as well as the hotel, after five and a half hours at 2.30 am. His body was found the next day.

Sources said Losalalka, who lived in a rented flat in Kolkata with friends, had booked two rooms in the hotel. He checked into one of the booked rooms on Friday at 8.30 pm. At the same time, Dhruvo and Kamal

were seen checking in at the hotel and entering another room, which was also booked by Losalalka. Later, around 9 pm, Dhruvo and Kamal were seen entering Losalalka’s room.

“Kamal has said during questioning that she met Losalalka through a dating app and met him for the first time in person on Friday evening,” a police officer said.

“During questioning, she said there was an argument with Losalalka that led to a scuffle in which he fell on the floor. They then tied his legs and ran away,” an officer said, adding the post-mortem report has concluded that Losalalka died of strangulation.

“The death was due to the effects of mechanical asphyxia resulting from strangulation, antemortem and homicidal in nature,” the report stated.

Since the body of Losalalka was found naked with his legs tied with a towel and a deep gash on the back of his head, the police suspect that the CA was hit from behind and then strangled.



Motilal Oswal Home Finance Limited

Corporate Office: Motilal Oswal Tower, Rahimtullah Sayani Road, Opposite ST Depot, Prabhadevi, Mumbai-400025.
Email : hqquery@motilaloaswal.com. CIN Number : U-65923MH2013PLC248741

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION CUM SALE

E-Auction Sale Notice of 15 Days for Sale of Immovable Asset(s) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to rule 8 and 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and to the borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors in particular, that the under mentioned property mortgaged to Motilal Oswal Home Finance Limited (Earlier Known as Aspire Home Finance Corporation limited) will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is", by way of "online e-auction" for recovery of dues and further interest, charges and costs etc. as detailed below in terms of the provisions of SARFAESI Act read with Rules 8 & 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002) through website motilaloaswalhf.com as per the details given below :

Sr. No.	Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) / Loan Account	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of the Immovable property	Reserve Price, EMD & Last Date of Submission of EMD
1.	LAN: LXAMR00417-180061954 Branch: Amravati Borrower: Pradip Nilakntrao Deshmukh Co-Borrower: Shaila Pradeep Deshmukh	25-05-2021 For Rs: 678198/- (Rupees Rupees Six Lac Seventy Eight Thousand One Hundred Ninety Eight Only)	Property No. - 27/2, At Post- Kalamangon Mauze, Taluka - Chandur Railway, District - Amravati, Maharashtra - 444904	Reserve Price: Rs.790471/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Ninety Thousand Four Hundred & Seventy One Only) EMD: Rs. 79047/- (Rupees Seventy Nine Thousand & Forty Seven Only) Last date of EMD Deposit:16-12-2025
2.	LAN: LXKWAR00315-160016324 Branch: Wardha Borrower: Kisana Narayan Mahajan Co-Borrower: Bhagyasini Kisana Mahajan	08-08-2023 For Rs: 677503/- (Rupees Rupees Six Lac Seventy Seven Thousand Five Hundred Three Only)	Mouza Ajsarsara, Mouza No. 10, Ph.No.25, House No. 31, Admeasuring Area 1394 Sq. Ft, Nr. Bho-jaji Maharaj Mandir, Hinganghat, Dist-Wardha, Maharashtra - 442301.	Reserve Price: Rs.1000000/- (Ten Lakh Only) EMD: Rs. 100000/- (One Lakh Only) Last date of EMD Deposit:16-12-2025
3.	LAN: LXAMR00416-170048820 Branch: Wardha Borrower: Nilesh Najukar Thakare Co-Borrower: Shital Nilesh Thakare	23-06-2021 For Rs: 484771/- (Rupees Rupees Four Lac Eighty Four Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy One Only)	Property No. - 27/2, Mouza - Domak, Taluka - Mroshi, District - Amravati, Maharashtra - 444905	Reserve Price: Rs.900000/- (Nine Lakh Only) EMD: Rs. 90000/- (Ninety Thousand Only) Last date of EMD Deposit:16-12-2025
4.	LAN: LXBHA00317-180057567 Branch: Bhandara Borrower: Vivek Ghanshyam Khobragade Co-Borrower: Aswini Vivek Khobragade	10-12-2020 For Rs: 640771/- (Rupees Rupees Six Lac Forty Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy One Only)	Prop No - 330, Zone No - 5, Code No - 155, Mouja Dabnha Gram Panchayat, Arjuni, Gondia, Maharashtra - 441701	Reserve Price: Rs.700000/- (Seven Lakh Only) EMD: Rs. 70000/- (Seventy Thousand Only) Last date of EMD Deposit: 16-12-2025

Terms and Conditions of E- Auction: The Auction is conducted as per the further Terms and Conditions of the Bid document and as per the procedure set out therein. Bidders may visit to the Web Portal: <https://www.auctionbazaar.com/> of our e-Auction Service Provider, M/s. ARCA EMART PRIVATE LIMITED for bidding information & support, the details of the secured asset put up for e-Auction and the Bid Form which will be submitted online. The interested buyers may go through the auction terms & conditions and process on the same portal and may contact to **Bhushan Moreshwarrao Pawar 8657956040 & Ulhas Yashwantkumar Bele 7208872611**, details available in the above mentioned Web Portal and may contact their Centralised Help Desk: + 91 83709 69696, E-mail ID: available@auctionbazaar.com.

Place: NAGPUR
Date: 24.11.2025

Sd/- Authorized Officer,
(Motilal Oswal Home Finance Limited)
(Earlier Known as Aspire Home Finance Corporation limited)

AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED
(CIN:L65922RJ2011PLC034297) Regd. & Corp. Office: 201-202, 2nd Floor, South End Square, Mansarovar Industrial Area, Jaipur. 302020



AUCTION NOTICE

Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis. The details of the cases are as under.

Name of Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/Mortgagors	Dues As on	Date & Amount of 13(2)Demand Notice	Date of Poss-ession	Description of Property	Reserve Price For Property	Earnest Money For Property	Date & Time of Auction	Place of Tender Submission, Tender Open & Auction at Aavas Financiers Ltd.
USHA KAVADU DARVEKAR, KAWDU ANANDRAO DARVEKAR (AC NO.) LNCHA13421-220197983	Rs. 5,35,954.00/- DUES AS ON 18 NOV 2025	09 SEP 2024 Rs. 389807/- DUES AS ON 04 SEP 2024	18 OCT 2025	PROPERTY NO.259 , SITUATED AT MOUZA .SUMTHANA , TAH.RAJURA DIST. CHANDRAPUR MAHARASHTRA ADMEASURING 1323. SQ.FT.	Rs. 463050/-	Rs. 46305/-	11.00 AM TO 01.00 PM 26 DEC 2025	1ST FLOOR, YERGUDE COMPLEX, ABOVE YERGUDE BICHAYAT KENDRA, OPPOSITE ANJKAR AUTOMOBILES, BAPAT NAGAR, CHANDRAPUR- 442402, MAHARAS HTRA-INDIA

Terms & Conditions: 1). The person, taking part in the tender, will have to deposit his offer in the tender form provided by the AFL which is to be collected from the above branch offices during working hours of any working day, super scribing "Tender Offer for name of the property "on the sealed envelope along with the Cheque/DD/pay order of 10% of the Reserve Price as Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in favour of AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED payable at Jaipur on/before time of auction during office hours at the above mentioned offices. The sealed envelopes will be opened in the presence of the available interested parties at above mentioned office of AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED The Inter-se bidding, if necessary will also take place among the available bidders. The EMD is refundable if the bid is not successful. 2). The successful bidder will deposit 25% of the bidding amount adjusting the EMD amount as initial deposit immediately or within 24hrs after the fall of the hammer towards the purchase of the asset. The successful bidder failing to deposit the said 25% towards initial payment, the entire EMD deposited will be forfeited & balance amount of the sale price will have to be deposited within 15 days after the confirmation of the sale by the secured creditor; otherwise his initial payment deposited amount will be forfeited. 3). The Authorised officer has absolute right to accept or reject any bid or adjourn/postpone the sale process without assigning any reason therefore. If the date of tender depositing or the date of tender opening is declared as holiday by Government, then the auction will be held on next working day. 4). For inspection and Interested parties who want to know about the procedure of tender may contact AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED 201,202, 1Ind Floor, South End Square, Mansarovar Industrial Area, Jaipur-302020 or **Ugansen Rinwa -9875895867** or respective branch during office hours. Note: This is also a 15/30 days notice under Rule 9(1)(8/6) to the Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagor of the above said loan accounts about tender inter se bidding sale on the above mentioned date. The property will be sold, if their out standing dues are not repaid in full.

Place : MAHARASHTRA
Date : 24-11-2025

Authorised Officer Aavas Financiers Limited



LIC HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED
3rd Floor, Shree Ram Tower, Near NIT Building, Sadar, Nagpur - 440 001.

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13(2) Securitization And reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002) ("SARFAESI Act, 2002")
Notice is given to you the below-mentioned Notices at. Sr.No. 1 to 5 that envelopes. containing the notice issued by the Authorized officer of LIC Housing Ltd (LIC HFL) u/s 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act by Regd. Post A/D, have been returned undelivered by the Postal authorities for reasons mentioned thereon.
Notice is therefore hereby served to you Notices vide Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 that you had availed housing loans mentioned against your named, below end on account of defaults committed by you in payment of the EMIs (Composing of Principal and interest). Accounts have been classified as 'Non performing Assets' in accordance with the guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India as such you Notices are hereby called upon to pay the entire outstanding amount mentioned in column 7 against you Notices's name together with further interest till payment within 60 days from the publication of this notice, failing which LIC HFL shall take possessions of the secured (mortgaged) assets under the provisions of the SARFAESI Act with right to transfer by way of sale, lease and to appoint any person to manage the said assets without prejudice to any other remedy available to LICHL. The amounts realized from exercising the powers as above will firstly be applied to wards all costs, charges and expenses which are incurred and expenses incidental thereto and secondly applied towards discharge of dues as mentioned against you Notices named below with contractual interest till date of actual realization and residue if any shall be paid to you after the entire dues of LIC HFL are recovered in full, If the dues are not fully recovered with the proceeds in the course of exercise of the said powers against the secured assets, we reserve outright to proceed against you before DRT /Courts for recovery of balance amount of dues along with all other incidental expenses. The undersigned is the duly authorized officer to issue this notice and exercise powers u/s 13 as aforesaid. This Public notice is to be treated as notice u/s 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002.

Sr. No.	Loan Account No.	Name of Borrowers	Description of Secured Assets	Demand Notice issue Date	Loan Aailed (disbursed)	O/s Amt. as on Demand Notice Date.i.e total o/s amt.
1.	611300006305	MR/MRS. KIRAN BHALERAO & MR/MRS. RATNAPRABHA KIRAN BHALERAO	APARTMENT NO. 403, 4TH FLOOR,SAI VIHAR-2, SADACHAR GRUH NIRMAN SAHAKARI SANSTHA MARYADIT,PLOT NO.2, P.S.K.NO.5, KH.NO.58, 179/7, 180/2 AND 181/2, MOUZA WADI, DISTRICT NAGPUR, MAHARASHTRA-440023	13.11.2025	Rs. 15,00,000.00	Rs. 1905849.17
2.	611300007274	MR/MRS.NARENDRA SHRICHAND BAHUTE	PLOT NO.278, KHWAJA GARIB NAWAZ CHSL, KHASRA NO.22/1, 22/2 AND 22/3, PH.NO.08, SURVEY NO.652, MOUZA BORGAON, TAHSIL AND DISTRICT NAGPUR MAHARASHTRA-440013.	13.11.2025	Rs. 10,50,000.00	Rs. 11,26,56.92
3.	613000001362	MR/MRS. BHUPENDRA NILKANTH PARDHI & MR/MRS. JYOTI BHUPENDRA PARDHI	PLOT NO.36,CITY SURVEY NO.633/2, 634, 635B1/P/1, T.S.NO.26, THAK NO.80, MOUZA KUDWA, GRAM PANCHAYAT KUDWA, TAHSIL AND DISTRICT GONDIA, MAHARASHTRA-441614.	13.11.2025	Rs. 45,00,000.00	Rs. 44,84,808.15
4.	613000001417	MR/MRS. MAHESH KASHINATH KAWALE	PLOT NO. 26, SURVEY NO. 145/1, SHIVAJI NAGAR WARD, MOUZA RAJURA, TAHSIL RAJURA, DISTRICT CHANDRAPUR, MAHARASHTRA – 442 905	13.11.2025	Rs. 14,40,000.00	Rs. 14,67,138.63
5.	613000001418	MR/MRS. MAHESH KASHINATH KAWALE	PLOT NO. 26, SURVEY NO. 145/1, SHIVAJI NAGAR WARD, MOUZA RAJURA, TAHSIL RAJURA, DISTRICT CHANDRAPUR, MAHARASHTRA – 442 905	13.11.2025	Rs. 8,00,000.00	Rs. 7,85,553.83

Date : 24.11.2025,
Place : Nagpur

Sd/- Authorised Officer,
LIC HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED



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NAGPUR