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National Investigation Agency



Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India

NIA Press Release

6th Absconder & 1 more harbourer arrested by NIA in Ramalingam murder case

New Delhi, 16th December 2025

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has nabbed the last of the six absconding proclaimed offenders (POs) and also arrested one more harbourer in the Ramalingam murder case.

Mohammed Ali Jinnah of Thanjavur district of Tamil Nadu was declared a PO and also carried a reward of Rs. 5 lakh for his arrest since Ramalingam was hacked to death in Thanjavur (TN) on 5th February 2019, allegedly by members of the banned Popular Front of India (PFI).

NIA investigations have revealed the role of Jinnah, a former district president of PFI, Thanjavur district, in conspiring, supervising and coordinating with other accused in the brutal killing.

The agency, which caught Jinnah on the basis of information received from the ATS unit of the Tamil Nadu police, on Tuesday also arrested Asmath, who had harboured the POs in the case for the past several years.

Just five days ago, NIA had arrested two more absconding POs and three other harbourers in the case RC-06/2019/NIA/DLI.

The agency, which had taken over the probe from Thiruvidaimaruthur police on 7th March 2019 and filed the chargesheet in August 2019, is continuing to investigate the conspiracy behind the murder.

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