

Court sets aside bail order, says GST case has larger ramifications

New Delhi: A Delhi court has set aside an order granting bail to a man, who had allegedly claimed IGST refund to the tune of Rs 376.45 crore fraudulently through fictitious firms, saying the case had larger ramifications as its tentacles were spread across a complex web, which not only involved officials of GST, but also put Customs officials in the dock.

Additional Sessions Judge Anil Antil said it was not a simple case of tax dispute but claim of IGST refunds allegedly based on false, fabricated documents and fraudulent transactions, comprehended through a complex web of fictitious firms apparently created and managed by accused Ritesh Aggarwal.

It noted that as per the probe, Aggarwal seemed to be the alleged mastermind and his "dubious conduct" gave clear impression that he was misleading the investigation and influencing the witnesses. The court said in order to unearth the money trail and to ensure that the accused was not able to exert his influence in the case, bail ought not have been granted to him by the magistrate court. **TNI**