



PRESS RELEASE

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Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Ranchi Zonal Office has provisionally attached immovable properties valued at Rs. 3.87 Crore (approx.) under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, in a money laundering investigation against M/s Santosh Construction and its associates, namely Santosh Kumar Singh, Mrityunjay Kumar @ Sonu Singh, Manish Kumar, Baijnath Ganjhu, Rajesh Kumar Ganjhu and Ravindra Ganjhu.

ED investigation initiated pursuant to two FIRs registered at Police Station Chandwa, District Latehar, Jharkhand, and subsequently re-registered and investigated by the National Investigation Agency (NIA), under various provisions of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, the Arms Act, and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. One FIR relates to a Maoist attack on 22.11.2019 at NH-75, Lukuiya More, Latehar, in which four Jharkhand Police personnel were martyred, and arms/ammunition were looted. Another FIR relates to cash seizure of Rs. 5 Lakhs as extortion/levy paid by Mrityunjay Kumar @ Sonu Singh, one of the partners of M/s Santosh Construction to Ravindra Ganjhu, the Regional Commander, Latehar, CPI (Maoist), banned Naxal outfit.

The total Proceeds of Crime (POC) generated in this case from commission of scheduled offences has been quantified at approximately Rs. 7.16 Crore. The said POC is generated in cash and out the same Rs. 2.69 Crore was recovered (in cash) by NIA during its search proceedings and rest amount of Rs. 4.46 Crore was placed and layered in form of capital infusions into the firm during FY 2017-18 and FY 2018-19.

Investigation further revealed that the layered POC were integrated into the formal economy through acquisition of 11 immovable properties situated at Mouza Chandwa and Mouza Kamta, District Latehar, Jharkhand, in the names of M/s Santosh Construction, Santosh Kumar Singh, Mrityunjay Kumar @ Sonu Singh and Manish Kumar, using a combination of undervalued sale deeds and off-the-books cash payments to circumvent banking scrutiny.

Accordingly, ED has provisionally attached the aforesaid 11 immovable properties valued at Rs. 3.87 Crore (approx), being POC and property equivalent thereto, under the provisions of the PMLA, 2002.

Further investigation is under progress.