Press Release
19.11.2026

The Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Nagpur Sub-Zonal Office has provisionally attached movable and immovable properties valued at **Rs. 16.23 Crore** (Approx) under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, in connection with the investigation into illegal sand mining and transportation from various Sand Ghats located in and around Nagpur and Bhandara districts of Maharashtra. The attached properties comprise various movable and immovable assets, including high-end vehicles, land parcels, buildings, flats, commercial shops, farmhouses, etc., which have been identified as properties acquired, directly or indirectly, out of the Proceeds of Crime generated through the illegal sand mining activities by an organised syndicate.

During the course of the investigation, the ED had earlier conducted search operations at various locations, resulting in recovery and seizure of several incriminating documents, records, digital devices and cash. Further, movable assets, including bank balances, high-end vehicles, JCB machines and Pokland machines, were also frozen under the provisions of the PMLA, 2002. With the latest provisional attachment of properties worth Rs. 16.23 Crore, the total value of Proceeds of Crime seized, frozen and provisionally attached in the case has exceeded **Rs. 20 Crore**. The aggregate current market value of these assets is estimated to be **more than Rs. 50 Crore**.

ED's investigation was initiated on the basis of an FIR registered at Sadar and Ambazari Police Station of Nagpur City against Narendra Pimple and others. They were accused of running an organized illegal sand mining operation by using forged and fake Electronic Transit Passes (e-TPs) to extract, transport and sell sand unlawfully.

The investigation conducted by ED has revealed that organized sand mafia syndicates, in collusion with transporters and other associates, were engaged in the illegal excavation of sand beyond the permitted areas and quantities from auctioned Retighats in Nagpur and adjoining districts. To facilitate the transportation and sale of such illegally mined sand, the syndicates procured fake Electronic Transit Passes (e-TPs), purportedly issued in respect of legally leased sand ghats in Madhya Pradesh, at rates ranging from Rs. 6,000/- to Rs. 10,000/- per pass. These forged e-TPs were used to falsely project the illegally excavated sand as having originated from authorized sand ghats in Madhya Pradesh, thereby providing a semblance of legality to its transportation and sale. Although the vehicle registration numbers mentioned in the e-TPs were genuine and reflected on the Government portal, analysis of GPS data established that the vehicles had neither visited the purported sand ghats in Madhya Pradesh nor followed the routes indicated in the e-TPs. Instead, they were found to have undertaken repeated trips from illegal sand mining locations in and around Nagpur. This modus operandi was deliberately adopted to conceal the actual source of the illegally excavated sand and facilitate its transportation and commercial disposal without payment of applicable royalty and taxes, thereby causing substantial loss to the Government exchequer.

Further investigation is under progress.

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