PRESS RELEASE
18.07.2026

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Patna Zonal Office has conducted search operations on 17.07.2026 at 12 locations across the country in Sri Ganganagar, Jaipur, Delhi, Gurgaon, Patna and Banka under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 in connection with illegal sand mining done by M/s Mahadev Enclave Pvt Ltd, Banka, Bihar. This entity is controlled by Chandak Family of Sri Ganganagar (Rajasthan), headed by Ashok Chandak and his son Mr. Raghav Chandak.

During the search operations, **Rs.2.92 Crore cash**, various important documents pertaining to sale deeds, bank accounts details, cheque, loan agreements, investment details, and digital evidences etc were recovered and seized.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIRs registered at Banka under various Sections of IPC 1860, against M/s Mahadev Enclave Pvt Ltd and its director Manoj Pachisia, who were found to have conducted illegal mining at large scale and the same were not reported/noticed by the State Mining Department. Accordingly, ED Patna requested IIT, Patna to carry out “Geospatial Analysis of Sand Ghats of Rivers in Banka District of Bihar” vide letter dated 01.10. 2024.

From the analysis of report of IIT, Patna it was found that the company had excavated huge sand illegally and approximate value of this illegally mined sand was **more than Rs. 131 Crore** during FY 2015-16 to 2022-23. Accordingly, this information was shared in terms of Section 66(2) of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 to the Managing Director, Bihar State Mining Corporation Limited, Patna. In response, the Mines and Geology Department, Government of Bihar has lodged FIR no. 365/2025 dated 21.08.2025, which is under investigation.

Further investigation is under progress.