**PRESS RELEASE**
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Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Patna Zonal Office, has provisionally attached immovable properties (including flats and land in Bihar and Delhi) and movable properties (including bank balances, gold and silver jewellery, and investments in insurance policies) totaling **Rs.2.85 Crore (approx.)** under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002. These assets were acquired by Prabhanshu Shekhar, the then Deputy General Manager (DGM), National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), Patna, Bihar, in his own name and in the names of his family members through indulgence in corrupt practices.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIRs registered by CBI, Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), Patna, along with the chargesheets filed therein, alleging offences under Sections of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, and the Indian Penal Code, 1860. Perusal of CBI Chargesheet No.24/2023 dated 22.12.2023 revealed that during the check period from 01.01.2016 to 23.09.2022, Prabhanshu Shekhar had acquired disproportionate assets to the tune of **Rs.4.07 Crore (approx.)** in his name and in the name of his family members.

ED investigation under PMLA revealed that Prabhanshu Shekhar, during his posting as DGM, NHAI in Bihar from 01.01.2016 to 23.09.2022, indulged in corrupt practices by clearing inflated bills, manipulating measurement books, and overlooking the use of sub-standard construction materials by M/s Ashoka Buildcon Limited. This resulted in the generation of substantial Proceeds of Crime (POC). Part of these POC were directly deposited into the bank accounts of his family members and also utilized for daily expenses. Additionally, cash proceeds were invested in immovable properties in the name of his wife and movable assets such as insurance policies, gold, and silver Jewellery in the names of himself and his family members.

Further investigation is under progress.