



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**21.08.2023**

Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has filed Prosecution Complaint under Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA) against Abhay Kant Pathak, the erstwhile officer of Indian Forest Services (IFoS), who had previously worked as Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, Plan, Programme & Afforestation, Bhubaneswar, Odisha and his son Akash Kumar Pathak, in the Court of the Hon'ble Sessions Judge, Khurda at Bhubaneswar –Cum- Special Court (PMLA), Bhubaneswar in a disproportionate assets (DA) case with prayer for conviction of the accused persons and confiscation of the proceeds of crime. The Hon'ble Special Court, PMLA, Bhubaneswar was pleased to take cognizance of the offence of money laundering on 18.08.2023.

ED initiated investigation under PMLA on the basis of the F.I.R. registered by the Vigilance Cell P.S., Vigilance Directorate, Odisha Police, under various sections of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 against Abhay Kant Pathak and his son Akash Kumar Pathak in connection with possessing assets disproportionate to known source of income to the extent of INR 9.35 Crore by Abhay Kant Pathak. During the investigation, several other FIRs and chargesheets registered by Odisha Police against Akash Kumar Pathak and Abhay Kant Pathak were obtained, which were related to the criminal activities of Akash Kumar Pathak, who duped the gullible people in lieu of providing jobs in Tata Motors.

ED had earlier carried out two search operations under PMLA, 2002 and subsequently also, a BMW Luxury Car was seized. Further, two Provisional Attachment Orders against the accused persons were also issued attaching properties worth Rs. 106.95 Lakhs.

\*\*\*\*\*