



PRESS RELEASE

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Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Bhubaneswar Zonal Office has provisionally attached assets worth **Rs. 1.52 Crore** of Basanta Kumar Das, mining lease holder of Kasiabeda Iron Ore Mines, Badampahar, Mayurbhanj, Odisha and proprietor of M/s Das Bhai Minerals under the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR and Charge-sheet registered by Vigilance Department, Odisha Police on the allegation of “illegal mining” from the Kasiabeda Iron Ore Mines, Badampahar, Mayurbhanj, Odisha during the period from 2005-2009.

Earlier, ED had arrested Anand Kumar Agarwal, Director of M/s Siddharth Sponge & Power Pvt. Ltd. who was involved in the illegal mining in connivance with Basanta Kumar Das. It is also to be mentioned here that search operations under section 17 of PMLA, 2002 were also undertaken in this case.

Further investigation is under progress.