

## **Press Release**

## 30.03.2025

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Ranchi Zonal Office has provisionally attached immovable and movable properties having total value of Rs.1.76 Crore, on 29/03/2025 belonging to Santosh Kumar and his family members in the case of Santosh Kumar & others under the provisions of Prevention of money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR registered by Ranchi Sadar PS, Jharkhand Police under various sections of IPC, 1860 and Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, against Santosh Kumar, the then Cashier cum-Upper Divisional Clerk (UDC), posted at the office of Drinking Water and Sanitation Department, Swarnrekha Head Works Division, Ranchi, Jharkhand. The FIR revealed that Santosh Kumar fraudulently and dishonestly made fake payee ID in the name of one of the executive agencies (contractor) of Drinking Water and Sanitation Department, Swarnarekha Head Works Division, Ranchi, (using bank account details of his own and his shell company) and withdrew government funds to the tune of Rs. 2.71 Crore (approx.). It also surfaced that he manipulated employee details in the DDO code of the Department.

ED investigation revealed that Santosh Kumar has fraudulently transferred/withdrawn the security deposits and time extension refunds in respect of the contractor, to the tune of Rs. 22.86 Crore (approx) into his bank accounts as well as in the bank accounts of his company M/s Rockdrill Constructions (OPC) Private Limited and his wife. It was also revealed that Santosh Kumar created the company M/s Rockdrill Constructions (OPC) Private Limited in December, 2022, only for the embezzlement of Government funds.

Earlier, searches were conducted under section 17 of the PMLA, 2002 in the case at 26 premises on 14.10.2024 and 17.10.2024, and as a result of searches cash amounting Rs. 55.08 lakhs, digital devices, documents and records were seized.

Further investigation is under progress.