



## **Press Release**

**10.01.2024**

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Nagpur has carried out search operations under the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 from 08.01.2025 to 09.01.2025 at 07 commercial and residential premises in Chandrapur and Nagpur linked to Abhishek Vinodkumar Thakur, Rohit Vinodkumar Thakur and their related entities.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of the FIR registered by Maharashtra Police in Chandrapur District under various sections of IPC, 1860 against the Abhishek Vinodkumar Thakur, Rohit Vinodkumar Thakur, partners of M/s Wild Connectivity Solutions (WCS), of defrauding the government through financial misconduct. The alleged fraud was Rs.12.15 Crore (approx.) impacting the forest department.

ED investigation revealed that WCS was engaged by the Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve through a Service Level Agreement dated 10.12.2021, to provide uninterrupted services to visitors, including collecting entry fees, gypsy charges, and guide charges. However, the company's owners, Abhishek Vinodkumar Thakur and Rohit Vinodkumar Thakur who were the residents of Chandrapur city violated the terms of the agreement and cheated the Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve Conservation Foundation to the extent of Rs. 12.15 Crore (approx.) during the years 2020-21 to 2023-24.

During the search proceedings, it was revealed that the directors of WCS had utilised the fraudulently gained amounts for the acquisition of personal properties and for payment of past loans availed in the name of their other entities. Valuables such as gold, diamond and platinum jewellery/ bullion worth Rs. 1.42 Crore were seized, along with various property documents. Additionally, incriminating evidence in both digital and documentary forms was recovered and seized.

Further investigation is under progress.