PRESS RELEASE

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ED conducts searches in Ranchi Land Scam Case, Seizes Rs. 59 Lakh in Cash

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Ranchi Zonal Office has conducted extensive search operations on 23.09.2025 at nine premises located in Ranchi and Delhi under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, in connection with a **large-scale land scam case**. The operations were focused on the premises of Brajesh Kumar Singh, one of the masterminds of the land scam syndicate, and other related persons.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of multiple First Information Reports (FIRs) registered by the Jharkhand Police against a land-grabbing syndicate and its associates. The ED has already arrested the main accused, Kamlesh Kumar, on 26.07.2024, and a Prosecution Complaint has been filed against him and five others before the Hon'ble Special Court (PMLA), Ranchi. Investigation under the PMLA revealed that the accused persons, in a criminal conspiracy with government officials including Circle Officers, forged official land records to illegally acquire and sell vast parcels of non-saleable tribal, government, and Bhuinhari lands.

During the recent search operations, the ED seized a substantial volume of incriminating evidence, including various deeds and agreements related to the fraudulent sale and purchase of land, and several digital devices. Furthermore, unaccounted cash amounting to Rs. 59 Lakh was seized during the search proceedings.

Earlier in this case, a search conducted at the premises of Kamlesh Kumar had resulted in the seizure of unaccounted cash of Rs. 1.02 Crore and 100 rounds of live ammunitions. The ED has prayed for the confiscation of this seized cash.

Further investigation is under progress.