



## **Press Release**

**05.08.2022**

Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has arrested Bachhu Yadav, associate of Pankaj Mishra under Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 in illegal Mining case. The said person was produced before the Special PMLA Court, Ranchi today and Hon'ble Court is pleased to send the accused in ED Custody for 6 days.

During investigation, it is found that Bachhu Yadav is one the muscleman of Pankaj Mishra and he is involved in the activities related to illegal mining & their transportation on a large scale in association with Pankaj Mishra. During investigation it is also found that Bacchu Yadav is habitual criminal and there are several cases registered against him regarding attempt to murder, extortion, threatening, possession of illegal arms etc in Sahibganj Area.

ED initiated money laundering investigation on the basis of FIR registered by Barharwa Police Station, Sahibganj District, Jharkhand under various sections of IPC, 1860, against the Pankaj Mishra & ors. Later on, several FIRs regarding illegal mining have also been taken into the ambit of investigation. Till date, ED has detected POC to the tune of more than Rs. 100 Crore in this case.

Earlier, ED had conducted searches in Sahibganj, Barhet, Rajmahal, Mirza Chauki & Barharwa and seized Rs 5.34 Crore in cash on 08.07.22. Later on, ED had seized one inland vessel namely M.V.Infralink- III, several stone crushers and three hyva trucks in Sahibganj Area. ED has also seized Rs 13.32 Crore lying in 50 bank accounts. On being found guilty of Money Laundering, ED had earlier arrested Pankaj Mishra on 19.07.22. Currently, he is in judicial custody.

Further investigation into the case is in progress.

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