



## **Press Release**

## 20.01.2024

Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has provisionally attached various immovable properties belonging to Gayatri Prasad Prajapati's family members and his close associates, under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002. These properties include 04 Flats in an apartment building in Malad (West), Mumbai, 07 parcels of Agricultural & Residential Land situated at Mohanlal Ganj and Hariharpur in Lucknow, having total value of Rs 13.42 Crore.

ED initiated investigation in 2021 on the basis of FIR registered by Uttar Pradesh Vigilance Establishment, Lucknow against Gayatri Prasad Prajapati, Ex- Minister of Mining, Uttar Pradesh for the act of acquiring disproportionate assets and conducting criminal misconduct on the basis of recommendation of the Hon'ble Lokayukta, Uttar Pradesh.

ED investigation revealed that Gayatri Prasad Prajapati, while holding the post of Mining Minister of Uttar Pradesh, misused his official position and had acquired huge assets disproportionate to his source of income in the name of his family members and other close associates/ friends which was not commensurate to their known sources of income. Gayatri Prasad Prajapati and his family members laundered the illicit funds generated during his tenure as a Minister in the Govt. of Uttar Pradesh through various legal entities through a series of fictitious and sham transactions and acquired multiple assets. He also used bank accounts of his family members to deposit the illegitimate cash, earned by him for his illegal gains.

Earlier, ED had attached 60 immovable properties in the form of lands/buildings acquired in the name of Gayatri Prajapati's family members, various legal entities, benami holders, relatives, employees and friends and deposits made in Bank Account, totally valued at Rs.36.95 Crore.

This is the 2nd PAO in this case and the total value of attached properties including this one stands at Rs. 50.37 Crore approx.

Further investigation is under progress.