



Press Release
01.09.2023

Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has provisionally attached three land parcels worth Rs 161.64 Crore (Commercial Value) situated at Chesire Home Road, Pugru and Siram, all in Ranchi in **Ranchi Land Scam case**. These land parcels have been mutated fraudulently in favor of land mafias in connivance with the officers of Land Revenue Department.

ED had initiated investigation in three land scam cases on the basis of multiple FIRs registered by Jharkhand Police and West Bengal Police against Pradip Bagchi, Bishnu Kumar Agarwal, Bhanu Pratap Prasad and others under various sections of IPC.

ED investigation revealed that a huge racket of illegal change of ownership of land by mafia is going on in Jharkhand. These criminal elements used to forge the legacy records in Kolkata & Ranchi. It is also revealed that ownership records of land have also been forged by the unscrupulous government officers to extend favors to the said land mafia. Subsequently, on the basis of forged land records, such land parcels are sold to other persons. ED had earlier carried out 41 searches & 5 surveys in this matter and various incriminating evidences such as forged seals of Land Revenue Department, forged land deeds, records of distribution of Proceeds of Crime among them, photographs of forgery, evidences of giving bribe to Government officials etc. were seized.

Earlier, ED had provisionally attached three land parcels worth Rs. 74.39 Crore (Commercial Value) in another land scam case. With the current attachment, the total attachment in land scam cases reached to Rs 236 Crore. Till date, 14 accused namely Pradip Bagchi, Afshar Ali, Saddaam Hussain, Imtiaz Ahmed, Talha Khan, Faiyaaz Khan, Bhanu Pratap Prasad, Chhavi Ranjan, IAS (Ex DC Ranchi), Dilip Kumar Ghosh, Amit Kumar Agarwal, Bishnu Kumar Agarwal, Rajesh Rai, Bharat Prasad and Prem Prakash have been arrested and are presently in Judicial custody.

Earlier a Prosecution Complaint was filed on 12.06.2023. Today, i.e on 01.09.2023, another Prosecution Complaint has been filed by ED in land scam case.

Further investigation is under progress.