



**Press Release**  
**10/01/2025**

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Shimla has provisionally attached seven immovable properties worth Rs. 5.80 Crore as Proceeds of Crime (POC) belonging to accused Ashoni Kanwar under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 in the **Fake Degree Scam case** involving Manav Bharti University, Solan. These seven immovable properties are located in Haryana, Delhi and Himachal Pradesh.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of three FIRs registered by Dharampur Police Station, District Solan, Himachal Pradesh under various sections of IPC, 1860.

ED investigation revealed that the accused Raj Kumar Rana with the help of his other co-accused including his wife Ashoni Kanwar and son Mandeep Rana sold fake degrees in lieu of money from agents/students. These fake degrees were sold in the name of Manav Bharti University, Solan and the POC generated through this sale of fake degrees is quantified at Rs 387 Crore. The money obtained from this illegal activity was used by Raj Kumar Rana, Ashoni Kanwar and Mandeep Rana to acquire various movable and immovable assets across various states in their own name and in the name of other related entities.

ED had also filed a Prosecution Complaint (PC) before Hon'ble Special Court (PMLA), Shimla, Himachal Pradesh against 14 persons and 02 entities including Raj Kumar Rana, Ashoni Kanwar, Mandeep Rana and others under the PMLA, 2002. The Hon'ble Special Court, Shimla had taken cognizance of this PC on 04.01.2023.

Ashoni Kanwar and Mandeep Rana had both fled the country after registration of FIRs against Manav Bharti University. Earlier in this case, ED had also provisionally attached movable and immovable properties worth Rs. 194.14 Crore on 29.01.2021. This Provisional Attachment Order had subsequently been confirmed by the Adjudicating Authority. Hence, the total attachment in this case stands at Rs. 200 Crore (approx.).

Further investigation is under progress.