



PRESS RELEASE

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Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Headquarters Office, New Delhi has provisionally attached movable and immovable assets worth Rs. 25.16 Crore in the case of M/s. Sunder Marketing Associates, Raman Sokhal S/o Vinod Sokhal, Satbir Chhikara and others under the provisions of the Prevention of Money-laundering Act (PMLA), 2002. The movable and immovable properties in the form of seized cash, agricultural lands, residential plots, residential house, flat, commercial office amounting to **Rs. 25.16 Crore** have been attached.

ED conducted investigation in the matter on the basis of the Prosecution Complaint (PC) filed by Haryana State Pollution Control Board (HSPCB) under the Environment Protection (EP) Act, 1986 against M/s Goverdhan Mines and Minerals (GMM) & others and subsequently FIR bearing No. 0449 dated 14.08.2023 under various sections of IPC, 1860 against M/s Sunder Marketing Associates (SMA), its partners Naveen Goel and Raman Sokhal and others was also lodged based on ED investigation.

ED investigation revealed that Raman Sokhal, Vinod Sokhal, Satbir Singh Chhikara in connivance with his close associates formed M/s. Sundar Marketing Associates and obtained mining lease of 'Dadam Hill' located in village Tosham, District Bhiwani, Haryana, in the year 2015 for mining of 'Stone and Associated Minor Mineral' and have acquired ill-gotten money by illegal & unscientific mining beyond the mining area causing loss to the exchequer and corresponding gains to themselves. It is worth mentioning here that rampant illegal mining in the area caused landslides killing 5 persons.

Earlier, searches were conducted to trace and seize proceeds of crime, which have resulted into recovery and seizure of incriminating documents, including cash, bank balances, jewellery, luxury cars etc. worth Rs. 4.81 Crore. During the course of investigation, Vedpal Singh Tanwar, the key person of M/s. Goverdhan Mines and Minerals, was arrested u/s 19 of PMLA by the ED on 30.05.2024 and his regular bail was rejected by Ld. Special Court, Saket holding that prime facie it is accuse of Money Laundering. Presently he is on interim bail on medical grounds.

ED investigation has revealed that by illegal and unscientific mining the accused persons have acquired Proceeds of Crime (PoC) to the tune of Rs. 71.32 Crore and the same were used in purchase and acquisition of movable and immovable properties. During investigation, assets of the accused identified worth Rs. 25.16 Crore, out of the above quantified PoC of Rs.71.32 Crore, have been attached.

Further investigation is under progress.