



## **Press Release**

**12.07.2024**

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Hqrs Office has conducted search operations under the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 at the premises of partners and associates of the M/s. Govardhan Mines and Minerals in connection with illegal mining in Dadam area of Haryana at various locations in Hisar, Bhiwani, Gurugram, Panchkula and Delhi. The persons searched include Mrs. Ravita, Pankaj Singh, Jagat Singh, Sanjay Gupta, Sombir Singh, Naveen Kumar and others. During the search operations various incriminating documents, digital devices, cash of Rs. 5 Lakh and a luxurious BMW car worth Rs. 1.50 Crore were seized, and bank account of the Firm having balance Rs. 41 Lakh has been frozen.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of the Prosecution Complaint filed by the Regional Officer, Haryana State Pollution Control Board, Bhiwani before Ld. Special Environment Court, Kurukshetra against the Firm M/s. Govardhan Mines and Minerals for violating the conditions of Environment Clearance under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and subsequent FIR of Haryana Police registered under various sections of IPC, 1860.

ED investigation revealed that the Firm M/s. Govardhan Mines & Minerals has been involved in large scale illegal and unscientific mining in the Dadam area of Haryana. It had led to large scale damage to the Environment and huge loss to the exchequer. The unscientific mining in the area led to slope instabilities killing 5 persons. ED investigation further revealed that Vedpal Singh Tanwar is the key managerial person, who not only acquired mining rights illegally but also led to illegal and unscientific mining beyond permissible limits. Proceeds of Crime to the tune of Rs. 56 Crore have been generated from the said illegal mining which are in possession of Vedpal Singh Tanwar and other persons searched.

Earlier, searches were also conducted in the case on 03.08.2023 wherein large scale incriminating documents, jewellery worth Rs. 3.7 Crore, Cash of Rs. 26.45 Lakh and a Mercedes Car worth Rs. 1 Crore were seized. Vedpal Singh Tanwar was arrested by the ED on 30-05-2024 and is presently in judicial custody.

Further investigation is under progress.