



Press Release
7/10/2025

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Bhopal has conducted search operations on 03.10.2025 at 7 locations in Bhopal, Vidisha, Katni, Chhatarpur districts of Madhya Pradesh under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, linked to Shobhit Tripathi, the then Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Janpad Panchayat Sironj and others. The searches led to the seizure of various incriminating documents including property papers, digital devices and freezing of bank accounts and mutual funds to the tune of Rs 21.7 Lakh belonging to Shobhit Tripathi and others.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of an FIR registered by Economic Offense Wing, Bhopal under various Sections of IPC, 1860 and Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 against Shobhit Tripathi, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Janpad Panchayat Sironj and others. Shobhit Tripathi in collusion with others siphoned off Rs. 30.18 Crore (approx.) in the name of 5923 suspicious marriages under the Marriage Assistance Scheme of the M.P. Govt. for the period from 2019 to November 2021.

ED investigation revealed that Shobhit Tripathi, in collusion with Data Entry Operators viz Yogendra Sharma and Hemant Sahu, had misused his position to divert the funds originally allocated for benefitting the construction workers' families. They forged and fabricated documents and uploaded the fraudulent information on the portal. By using these documents fraudulently and unlawfully they transferred the funds from the Government treasury to the bank accounts of ineligible applicants and subsequently withdrew the same through ATM in multiple tranches. The amount so withdrawn was then deposited in the bank accounts of Shobhit Tripathi & his family members and other related persons/entities.

ED investigation further revealed that Shobhit Tripathi had used the bank accounts of his relatives and their business concerns, to layer and project the Proceeds of Crime as untainted. The amount so layered was then either utilised for making various payments or was invested in share market, mutual funds and for acquisition of immovable properties.

Further investigation is under progress.