



PRESS RELEASE
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Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Jammu has provisionally attached six (6) immovable properties in the form of land parcels comprising about 20 kanals of land at Village Assrwan, Taluka Bhalwal, Jammu valued at Rs. 1 Crore approx. belonging to Rakesh Kumar Chaudhary, Prop. M/s Rakesh Kumar Chaudhary under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR / charge sheet filed by CBI, Jammu against M/s Rakesh Kumar Chaudhary, Prop. Rakesh Kumar Chaudhary and others. Rakesh Kumar Choudhary in collusion with Hem Raj, the then Regional Officer (RO) of NHAI, Jammu, secured a tender for short-term improvement and routine maintenance of the NHAI/Lakhanpur-Jammu section, including Jammu Bye-pass, in the state of Jammu and Kashmir in 2018 for about Rs. 9.34 Crore.

During investigation, it is revealed that the experience certificates enclosed by accused Rakesh Kumar Choudhary with the bid of M/s Rakesh Kumar Choudhary were forged and the concerned issuing authorities denied having issued the same. The bank guarantee as part of tender submission documents, had expired and wasn't renewed, flouting the conditions for awarding the tender. The said contractor, having manipulated the tender process, indulged in commissioning of the scheduled offences under PMLA, including fraud and criminal conspiracy, for securing the tender to derive and obtain undue monetary benefits, in the form of Proceeds of Crime in the execution of the tender work.

The money trail revealed that the funds disbursed from the NHAI against the tender work were transferred into various accounts. The funds were further transferred to a third account, wherein the same were used for acquisition of the land parcels which have been attached.

Further investigation is under progress.