



Press Release

08.02.2024

Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has conducted search operations on 07.02.2024 at 17 locations of Uttarakhand, Delhi & Haryana under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 in the case of Birendra Singh Kandari, Brij Bihari Sharma, Kishan Chand & others. During the course of searches, cash amounting to Rs. 1.10 Crore (approx.), and gold of 1.3 Kg valued at approx. Rs. 80 Lakh, Foreign Currency amounting to Rs. 10 Lakh (approx.), bank lockers, digital devices, voluminous documents pertaining to immovable properties were recovered & seized.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR registered by Uttarakhand Police under various sections of IPC, 1860 against Birendra Singh Kandari & others.

ED investigation revealed that accused persons Birendra Singh Kandari, close associate of **Harak Singh Rawat**, former Forest Minister, Uttarakhand and Narendra Kumar Walia in a criminal conspiracy with Harak Singh Rawat had got registered two powers of attorney of a land for which the Hon'ble Court has cancelled the sale deed. Further, the accused persons had illegally sold the said land to Deepti Rawat w/o Harak Singh Rawat and Laxmi Singh whereon Doon Institute of Medical Science, Dehradun has been constructed under Shrimati Purna Devi Memorial Trust.

ED also initiated investigation on the basis of FIR registered by Vigilance Establishment Dehradun against Brij Bihari Sharma, Kishan Chand and others under various sections of IPC, Forest Conservation Act, Wild Life (Protection) Act & PC Act, 1988 . ED investigation revealed that accused Kishan Chand, the then DFO and Brij Bihari Sharma, the then Forest Ranger in a criminal conspiracy with others bureaucrats and politician **Harak Singh Rawat**, the then Forest Minister managed to publish tender of a higher amount than the authorised financial powers and was not as per the rules/guidelines of Uttarakhand Government. They also fabricated documents and misused the funds under head of Tiger Conservation Foundation and Campa head and caused a wrongful loss in multiple of crores to Uttarakhand Government and illegally cutting of more than 6000 trees against 163 trees.

Further investigation is under progress.
