



## **Press Release**

**01.07.2024**

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Ranchi has provisionally attached 62 immovable properties having value of Rs.9.67 Crore belonging to Md. Ezhar Ansari in the case of Md. Ezhar Ansari & others under the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR registered by Jharkhand Police under various sections of IPC, 1860 and Coal Mines Act, 2017 against Md. Ezhar Ansari, his truck Driver Sayyaid Salmani and others. Charge sheet has been filed by the Jharkhand Police against Md. Ezhar Ansari & others. In this case, illegally transported 19.56 MT of coal along with the said truck was seized by the Jharkhand Police.

ED investigation revealed that Md. Ezhar Ansari has misused the coal linkages policy under which subsidized coal was allotted to Small & Medium Enterprise (SME) of Ezhar Ansari, for captive consumption. Around 86568 MT of coal was allotted to 13(thirteen) such SME firms of Md. Ezhar Ansari, but instead of using it as raw material for its own captive consumption, Md. Ezhar Ansari diverted and sold the coal in the open market and generated Proceeds of Crime (PoC) of Rs 71.32 Crore. Further investigation revealed that these 13 firms/entities were non-operational or/and non-existent at their given addresses. Investigation has also revealed that he has acquired huge PoC by selling such coal (of subsidized rate) at the higher price in open coal Mandi of Varanasi and Dhanbad and also invested the same PoC in several immovable properties. ED investigation indicated that in lieu of such subsidized coal allotment, Ezhar Ansari used to give bribe/commission to some public servants.

ED had conducted searches at the premises of Md. Ezhar Ansari and as a result, huge cash of Rs 3.68 Crore was found & seized. Subsequently, Md. Ezhar Ansari was arrested on 16.01.2024 and presently is in Judicial custody. Further, Prosecution Complaint (PC) against Md. Ezhar Ansari, Istiyaque Ahmad and M/s Rajhans Ispat Pvt. Ltd. was filed on 15.03.2024 before the Hon'ble Special (PMLA) Court, Ranchi and the Hon'ble Court has taken cognizance of the PC on 18.03.2024.

Further investigation is under progress.