

Press Release 29/11/2023

Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has provisionally attached properties worth Rs. 97.18 Lakh under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 in MNREGA scam, Balrampur case. The attached properties are in the form of six agricultural lands and one house valued at Rs. 77.82 Lakh in the name of Smt. Sukhrani w/o Bhagwati Prasad Verma, the then Project Director, District Rural Development Authority in District Balrampur, Uttar Pradesh and two plots valued at Rs. 19.36 Lakh in the name of private supplier Athar Parvez. All the properties were acquired during or after the period of the scam and all payments were made in cash, the source of the which could not be explained.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR registered by ACB, CBI, Lucknow against Government officials and Private Suppliers in compliance of order of Hon'ble Allahabad High Court dated 31.01.2014 in Writ Petition No. 12802 (M/B) of 2011. ACB, CBI, Lucknow had identified Rs. 1.81 Crore as proceeds of crime in the matter

ED investigation revealed that Government officials in connivance with private suppliers committed large scale financial irregularities and siphoned off huge amount of Government Money for substandard or no goods supplied during procurement of goods required for implementation of MNREGA Scheme in Balrampur District, UP. Thus, their actions resulted into embezzlement of crores of Government money.

Further investigation is under progress.