



## **Press Release**

**07.08.2023**

Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has conducted searches on 03/08/2023 under provisions of the Prevention of Money-laundering Act,2002 at various locations in Delhi, Hisar, Bhiwani, Karnal and Yamuna Nagar (Haryana) belonging to M/s. Govardhan Mines & Minerals, M/s. Sunder Marketing and Associates and their partners in illegal mining case.

ED initiated money-laundering investigation as per the provisions of the Prevention of Money-laundering Act,2002 (PMLA) based on the Prosecution Complaint filed by the Regional Officer, Haryana State Pollution Control Board, Bhiwani before Ld. Special Environment Court, Kurukshetra as the entities violated the conditions of Environment Clearance under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Delhi has also imposed penalty of Rs. 65 Crore on M/s. Sunder Mining and Associates and M/s. Govardhan Mines & Minerals for doing illegal & unscientific mining causing large scale damage to the environment.

During the search operations by ED, various incriminating documents have been found and seized which reveal illegal mining done by these firms violating the environmental clearances granted to them leading to acquisition of proceeds of crime to the tune of hundreds of Crores. Further, documents found and seized also reveal that the manipulations in getting mining contract by M/s. Sunder Marketing and Associate & others. Freezing orders in respect of bank lockers and bank accounts of the Group were issued during the search operations under provisions of PMLA. During the search, a Mercedes car having acquisition value of approx. Rs. 1.25 Crore, cash of Rs. 26.45 lakh and incriminating documents including digital evidences, hard disks, mobiles etc. were seized.

Further investigation is under progress.