



Press Release
03.06.2024

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Nagpur has provisionally attached immovable assets located in Hingoli, Yavatmal, Nanded Districts among other areas across Maharashtra valued total at Rs. 4.06 Crore in the **PDS Foodgrain Scam case of M/s India Mega Agro Anaj Limited & Ors** under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 on 30.05.2024. The attached assets include immovable properties acquired by the Company M/s India Mega Agro Anaj Limited, its promoters Ajay Chandraprakash Baheti and his family members.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR and chargesheets filed by Police in Nanded district under various sections of IPC, 1860 which revealed illegal transportation of essential commodities of wheat and rice from the godown of F.C.I Jawahar Nagar Tuppa to the company of Baheti Group M/s India Mega Agro Anaj Ltd. As a part of an elaborate conspiracy, owner of India Mega Agro Anaj company namely Ajay Baheti, conspired with the whole machinery of Public Distribution system (PDS), such as truck drivers, truck owners, the district place representatives taking delivery, godown keepers at Tehsil place and in districts of Nanded and Hingoli, contractors who transport rationing grains, their representatives, owners of various trading companies, middlemen etc. and misappropriated food grains meant for public distribution at subsidized rates, for personal usage.

Forensic audit report revealed that the accused Ajay Baheti manipulated the books of accounts of his Company to create a paper trail for the tainted transactions and to project the diverted grains constituting the proceeds of the crime as untainted. ED investigation further revealed that Ajay Baheti used a network of fictitious trading companies in the names of their employees and bank accounts were opened in those names. Total diversion of Rs. 55.27 Crore worth of foodgrains from FCI godowns to M/s India Mega Agro Anaj Ltd was estimated as "proceeds of crime" during ED investigations based on aggregation of the payments made by Ajay Baheti against the bogus grain purchases from various shell entities during check period January, 2018 to July, 2018.

Earlier, Ajay Chandraprakash Baheti was arrested on 24.06.2021 by ED, Nagpur. Prosecution Complaint was filed on 20.08.2021 in this case.

Further investigation is under progress.