



Press Release

17.05.2024

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Bhubaneswar has provisionally attached immovable assets worth Rs. 94.55 Lakh, under Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 in connection with a case against Saroj Kumar Das, the Ex-Chief Mechanical Engineer of **M/s Paradip Port Trust and others**. The immovable assets contain one under construction duplex building worth Rs. 70 Lakh in Odisha and a residential house worth Rs. 24.55 Lakh in Kerala belonging to his associate.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of the FIR and Charge Sheet filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) against Saroj Kumar Das & others. As per the CBI investigation, Saroj Kumar Das, while posted as Chief Mechanical Engineer (CME) in Paradip Port Authority, Odisha, entered into a criminal conspiracy with the officials of M/s Orissa Stevedores Ltd (M/s OSL) and others and did not raise bills towards the damage of conveyor belts at the Paradip Port done by the said company. Saroj Kumar Das also influenced and relaxed the rules and helped M/s OSL and others in extension of license of Harbour Mobile Crane (HMC). In lieu of the undue favour rendered to M/s OSL, Saroj Kumar Das received bribe money either directly or through his associates, which he further invested in real estate.

During the course of investigations under PMLA, it was revealed that Saroj Kumar Das is rendering undue favour to certain entities and repeatedly receiving illegal gratification against such favours. There are huge cash deposits / transactions undertaken by him directly or indirectly. Saroj Kumar Das has acquired a land for consideration of Rs. 25 Lakh which was paid in cash and is also constructing a duplex house on the said land for which an amount of Rs. 45 Lakh in cash is paid to the developer till date. Saroj Kumar Das has laundered and transferred an amount of Rs. 24.55 Lakh to his associate, Smt. Sree Rekha R out of the said illegal gratification received by him.

Further investigation is under progress.
