



Press Release
31/03/2023

Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has provisionally attached immovable properties worth Rs.54.18 Crore in a case related to illegal mining under the provisions of Prevention of Money laundering Act. The attached assets are in the form of 30 immovable properties situated in Bellari, Koppal and hospet Distt. of Karnataka which are owned by the accused persons and their family members.

ED initiated investigation under PMLA, 2002 on the basis of FIR registered by the SIT Karnataka Lokayuktha, Bangalore against M/s Karadapudi Mahesh, his brothers and associates under various sections of IPC, 1860, Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.

During investigation under PMLA, it has been noticed that illegally mined iron ore was transported and traded by the main accused K Mahesh and his brothers, K Govindaraj, K Sadashiva, K Kumar with the help of their associates without valid permits or on the basis of fake and forged permits to the tune of Rs.62.92 Crore. Further, the accused persons also facilitated other persons/entities in transportation and trading of illegally mined iron ore by collecting risk money from them to the tune of Rs.40.93 Crore. Thus, the accused persons generated proceeds of the crime to the tune of Rs.103.85 Crore and caused loss to the Government Exchequer.

It was further noticed during investigation that most of the amount was received in cash and the same was used in acquisition of immovable properties in the name of accused persons and their family members during the relevant period of commissioning of scheduled offence.

Further investigation is under progress.