

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL**  
**EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA**

Original Application No. 23/2017/EZ

Syed Arshad Nasar

Applicant(s)

Versus

Union of India & Ors.

Respondent(s)

**With**

Original Application No. 140/2023/EZ

Pradeep Kumar Singh

Applicant(s)

Versus

State of Jharkhand

Respondent(s)

**With**

Original Application No. 150/2023/EZ

Ramchandra Chaurasia

Applicant(s)

Versus

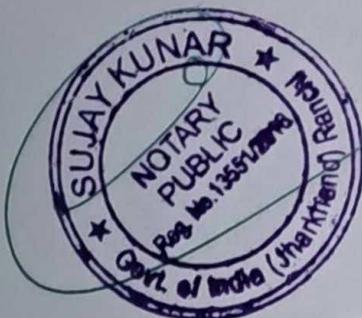
State of Jharkhand

Respondent(s)

**REPORT IN RESPECT OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE DIRECTORATE**  
**OF ENFORCEMENT**

I, Deovrat Jha, Aged About- 35 Years, Son of Om Prakash Jha, Office at Directorate of Enforcement, Ranchi Zonal Office, at Plot no. 1502/B,

19 JAN 2024

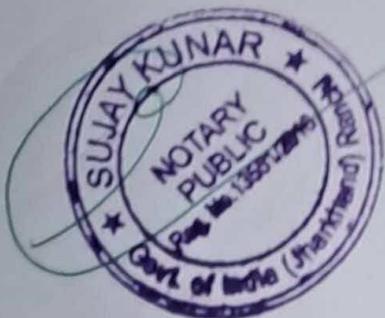


*Deovrat Jha*

Airport Road, Kunwar Singh Colony, Hinoo, Ranchi, Jharkhand, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows:-

1. That, I am presently working and posted as Assistant Director, at Directorate of Enforcement, Ranchi Zonal Office of the responding department and as such well acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case.
2. That, I have been duly authorized and therefore, I am competent to swear affidavit in this case on behalf of the Directorate of Enforcement.
3. That the present report is being furnished before this Hon'ble Tribunal in compliance of the order dated 01.012.2023.
4. That, an ECIR No 03/2022 was recorded on 08.03.2022 based on FIR No. 85/2020 dated 22.06.2020 lodged by Barharwa Police Station, Sahibganj District, Jharkhand under Section 147,149, 341,342,323,379,504,506 r/w 120-B of IPC, 1860, against Pankaj Mishra, assembly constituency, Representative, Barhait, Sahebganj, Jharkhand, Md. Alamgir Alam, MLA, Jharkhand and others. During the course of investigation conducted under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, other FIRs under various sections of IPC, 1860, Arms Act were also identified to be lodged

19 JAN 2024



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against the accused person and their associates and were merged in the ECIR for a comprehensive investigation.

5. That, during the investigation, it is revealed that rampant stone mining is being done in Sahibganj, Jharkhand illegally and the said illegal stone mining is being controlled by one Pankaj Mishra and his accomplices directly or indirectly through political patronage. Investigation further not only revealed about huge illegal stone mining activities in Sahebganj, Jharkhand but also illegal transportation of such stolen minerals through roads, railways, and inland vessels in connivance with the accomplices of Pankaj Mishra specifically Rajesh Yadav, Sunil Yadav, Bachhu Yadav and others.
6. That, during investigation, it was revealed that Pankaj Mishra, used his influence and dominance to control mining businesses as well as inland ferry services in Sahebganj and its adjoining areas and had control over the mining of stone boulders and chips as well as installation and operations of several crushers, set up across various mining sites in Sahebganj. He carried out illegal mining extensively at several sites through his associates and forcefully also controlled the mining sites granted to other entities. He had organized local criminals and used their association for exerting threat to run the business of extortion and illegal mining and transportation activities in Sahebganj. Besides this, heavy levy was extorted forcefully by him from transport vehicles operating in these mining areas, for allowing them to transport the mined stones and other items.

19 JAN 2024



*D. M.*

7. That, on 08.07.2022, searches were conducted on the premises of Pankaj Mishra and his associates and cash worth Rs 5 crores was seized. Further bank balances of Pankaj Mishra and his associates were frozen having balances worth 13 crores (approx.). Moreover, it also came to light that the Pankaj Mishra and his associates used to transport illegally mined stone chips/aggregates from cargo vessels that were plying from Sahebganj to Bihar.
8. That, during investigation, joint verification and survey of the mines was carried out by the Officers of the ED along with the team of several concerned state government officers/officials from 25.07.2022 to 29.07.2022, in order to ascertain the extent of illegal mining which was revealed during investigation on test check basis. During survey several operational as well as abandoned mine were identified on an area several Acres. The measurements of the periphery of the mining areas were taken by the officials of district administration as well as Forest Amins present during inspection. Coordinates were taken by GPS machine as well as physical Survey was done. The details of the leased mines and lessee was obtained from the district mining officer who was also present during the survey. The forests limits were inspected with the help of the forest department officials.
9. That, the joint inspection confirmed the instance of huge illegal mining spread across vast area and their illegal transportation

19 JAN 2024



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through railways, by roads and through inland vessels, whose quantification is more than 1000 crores of rupees as on day and is still going on. Such activities have resulted in denudation of land and forest area leading to other environmental hazards namely soil erosion, soil runoff, infertility of land, water logging, flattening of hill areas and other environmental and ecological damages whose exact quantification is beyond the bounds of possibility.

10. That, during the survey of the mines on 27.07.2022 in Sahebganj at mining site controlled by Pankaj Mishra, it was revealed that the mining site was being operated without any valid Consent to Operate and other documents. The measurement, Coordinates (by GPS machine), depth of mining were taken in presence of officials and it was revealed that the total mining was conducted illegally in an area admeasuring 3.18 acres without any permission from the competent authority. It was further revealed that the total quantity of excavated stone in the above said mining site was about 69,34,752 CFT. Many such other instances revealed illegal stone mining conducted by Pankaj Mishra and his accomplices.
11. That, when the co-ordinates of another mining, where mining is conducted by one of the accomplices of Pankaj Mishra namely Krishna Kumar Saha was taken, it was seen that he had done excessive mining which extends far beyond his leased area. The co-ordinates revealed that the said Krishna Kumar Saha had done mining on an area of 12.60 acres approx. whereas the total lease

19 JAN 2024



*D. Saha*

taken by him is only 6.13 acres. The mining has exceeded in adjacent areas in plot no. 56, 59P, 60P, 211P, 212P, 225P, 203P and 210.

12. That, on 27.07.2022, illegal mining site at Plot No. 60, 61, Thana No. 18, Bangla-Sakrogarh, Mouja-Mundali, Anchal- Mandro, Sahebganj, under the control of Tinkal Bhagat, another accomplice of Pankaj Mishra, were inspected on Plot no. 76, 77, 78, 89 at Bhutaha Mauja. It was found that the mining at Plot no. 76, 77 of Bhutaha Mauja was entirely illegal as no consent to operate mines was obtained from any authority.
13. That, on 29.07.2022, illegal mining by M/s Bhagwan Stone Works, one of the -firms of Bhagwan Bhagat, another associate of Pankaj Mishra was identified at Mauja Borna. The lease was given for mining on a total area of 13.13 acres at block Patna. However, the inspection revealed that the total mining has been done on an area of 21 acres. The mining exceeded in adjacent plots no. 135P, 138P, 137P, 136, 129P, 120, 119, 118P, 89P, 111P and 110P of Mauja Borna. It revealed that from April, 2019 to June, 2022, total mining challan obtained by Bhagwan Bhagat was around 23908985 CFT whereas the actual mining done by him was several times the quantity for which the mining challan was obtained. Thus, about 7.8 acres of excess mining by Bhagwan Bhagat was identified which was entirely illegal.

19 JAN 2024



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14. That, during investigation, it was also revealed that a large number of railway rakes were loaded with stone chips and were transported through railways without mining Challans in past 2 years.
15. That, it is revealed during investigation that the proceeds from such illegal stone mining activities are generated and acquired in cash. Further, such proceeds of crime were used and projected as untainted property by laundering them with the help of several bank accounts in the control of the accused persons namely Pankaj Mishra and his associates.
16. That, in the instant matter, total nine persons have been arrested so far including the kingpin Pankaj Mishra, owing to their indulgence in the activities connected with the proceeds of crime derived out of illegal stone mining.
17. That, further investigation under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 is continuing qua the role of other persons in illegal stone mining activities and generation of proceeds of crime therefrom.
18. That this present report is being filed bona fide and in the interest of justice.
19. That I have gone through the contents of the Counter Affidavit, which I understood the same fully.



*D. am*

20. That the statements made in paragraphs above are true to my knowledge. Those made in paragraphs 4 to 16 are based on information derived from the records of the case, verily believed by me to be true and rest are by way of submissions before this Hon'ble Court.

21. Verified, sworn and signed by me on 19<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2024 at Ranchi.

*D. Jha*  
19/01/24

(Deovrat Jha)

Assistant Director

Directorate of Enforcement

Ranchi

देवव्रत झा/Deovrat Jha

सहायक निदेशक/Assistant Director

प्रवर्तन निदेशालय/Enforcement Directorate

वित्त मंत्रालय, राजस्व विभाग

Ministry of Finance, Deptt. of Revenue

क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, राँची/Zonal Office Ranchi



19-01-24

NOTARY PUBLIC  
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19 JAN 2024