



## **Narcotics Control Bureau**

### **Press Release**

**Date - 08.03.2026**

- **NCB Busts Pan-India Darknet Drug Network “Team Kalki”; Large Seizure of LSD, MDMA and Liquid MDMA**

In a major breakthrough against darknet-enabled narcotics trafficking, the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) has dismantled a pan-India drug distribution network operating under the name “Team Kalki.” The network had been active on darknet platforms and the encrypted Session messaging application since January 2025. Acting on intelligence developed in last three months, NCB conducted an operation in New Delhi, leading to the bust of the network.

During the operation, NCB officers seized 2,338 LSD blotters, 160 MDMA (Ecstasy) pills weighing 77.517 grams, 73.612 grams of charas, 3.642 grams of amphetamine, and 3.6 kg of liquid MDMA from 13 domestically intercepted parcels and 2 parcels originating from the Netherlands linked to the network. The seizure highlights the growing use of darknet marketplaces and encrypted communication platforms by drug traffickers to distribute narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. The operation marks one of the significant crackdowns on darknet-based narcotics trafficking networks operating in India.

Investigation so far has revealed that the darknet vendor “Team Kalki” was operated by Anurag Thakur along with his associate Vikas Rathi. Both accused are habitual offenders and were previously arrested in cases registered under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985. Vikas Rathi had earlier been lodged in Tihar Jail in connection with a charas trafficking case registered by the Delhi Police Special Cell, while Anurag Thakur had been imprisoned in a methamphetamine trafficking case registered by the Delhi Police

Crime Branch. Both were lodged in Tihar Jail for the same time, during which they came together and later operated the darknet drug network “Team Kalki.”

Initially, the accused were active on the dark web forum “Dread,” where the vendor account maintained a four-star rating, indicating successful completion of a large number of orders. Once they established on Dread, also started their operations to the encrypted Session messaging application for vending and order fulfilment.

Preliminary investigation indicates that the network had a pan-India distribution footprint and employed sophisticated methods to evade law enforcement detection. It has further been revealed that the accused allegedly sourced LSD and MDMA from international darknet vendors based in the Netherlands, Poland and Germany. Orders from customers across India were received through encrypted platforms such as the dark web forum “Dread” and the Session messaging application, enabling anonymity and concealment of digital footprints.

Upon receiving orders from customers, one of the accused would relay the order details to his associate, who handled the packaging and dispatch of the narcotic consignments. The drugs were subsequently sent to customers across various parts of the country through courier and parcel services.

The investigation has also uncovered the use of a “dead drop” delivery technique, wherein parcels containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances were placed at pre-determined locations instead of being handed over directly to customers. Buyers were subsequently informed of the location details, enabling them to collect the parcels while minimizing the risk of detection. The “dead drop” delivery method was used only in limited areas of Delhi, and primarily for customers with a history of multiple prior orders. For pan-India deliveries, the accused predominantly used Speed Post and other courier/parcel services. As part of a cautious operational approach to avoid detection, a different courier or parcel service booking office was used for each consignment.

Further investigation has revealed that the network had dispatched narcotic drugs to several states across India. Some consignments were intercepted and seized by law

enforcement agencies before delivery in Delhi, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Kerala and Karnataka, and the details of such cases are being analysed.

The network is suspected to have dispatched more than 1,000 consignments since Jan 2025. Multiple electronic devices have been recovered from the accused, and a cryptocurrency wallet linked to the operation has been identified.

The accused accepted payments through cryptocurrencies using unhosted wallets, including Monero and USDT. The proceeds were routed through multiple intermediary wallets, with conversion charges of up to 10%, to convert the funds into USDT, which was subsequently stored in cold wallets. In certain instances, mule KYC-compliant wallets were also used to route the proceeds into the formal banking system.

For receiving USDT payments, temporary unhosted wallets were created dynamically, and the funds received were immediately transferred through multiple layers of intermediary wallets to beneficiary wallets, thereby attempting to obscure the transaction trail and hinder tracking by law enforcement agencies.

NCB is continuing the investigation to identify other associates, trace financial transactions, and uncover the international supply chain linked to the network. Further efforts are underway to dismantle the entire operational ecosystem of “Team Kalki.”

This operation is part of NCB’s sustained nationwide crackdown on darknet-enabled drug trafficking and synthetic drug networks. In past also, NCB has successfully conducted several major operations including Operation Ketamelon (2025) and Operation Zambada (2023), targeting organized drug trafficking syndicates and dismantling supply chains linked to international darknet markets.

This action reflects India’s Zero Tolerance Policy against narcotics and the Government’s resolve to dismantle drug trafficking networks operating both in the physical and virtual domains. NCB reiterates its unwavering commitment to dismantling organized drug trafficking networks and safeguarding society from the menace of narcotics. The public is encouraged to share information related to sale, transport or trafficking of narcotics through

the MANAS – National Narcotics Helpline (Toll Free No. 1933). The identity of informers is kept strictly confidential.

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