

Press Release/ Brief Note

In a follow up action - seizures of 1.42 crore psychotropic tablets from Embit Bio Medix, Ponta Sahib (Himachal Pradesh) and 11,693 CBCS bottles & 2.9 kg of Tramadol powder from J R Pharmaceuticals of cumulative valued at approx. Rs. 547 crores.

In pursuance of Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi's vision of DRUG FREE INDIA (Nasha Mukht Bharat) and acting upon the Hon'ble Union Home Minister's directives, NCB, Amritsar Zonal Unit, has busted major networks involved in illegal diversion and distribution of pharmaceutical medicines for non-medical use across Punjab, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, and Delhi.

A sustained intelligence-driven operation and *Top to Bottom and Bottom to Top* approach in investigation of cases from December 2024 to April 2025 led to significant seizures and arrests, exposing a complex nexus between manufacturers, stockist, and front operators.

On 20.04.2025, the raids were conducted in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh. The search in Uttarakhand resulted in seizure of 11,693 CBCS bottles and 2.9 kg of Tramadol powder from J R Pharmaceuticals. The search at the premises of key distributor, Embit Bio Medix, Paonta Sahib, Himachal Pradesh, resulted in the seizure of 19,25,200 Tablet indicating massive unauthorized possession and illegal distribution of pharmaceuticals medicine. The proprietor of Embit Bio Medix was arrested, while attempting to flee to Vietnam on 18th April at Indira Gandhi Airport, Delhi.

Investigation revealed that Embit Bio Medix, Paonta Sahib (Himachal Pradesh) procured pharma drugs from **one private limited company Dehradun**. Its proprietor had previously operated in Delhi, where his drug license was cancelled in December 2022 on account of diversion of psychotropic substances. Concealing this, he obtained a new license in Himachal Pradesh and launched another firm in Delhi, registered under an associate's name- Aashi Pharmaceutical.

Earlier, in this case, on December 8, 2024, a person impersonating a medical professional was intercepted at Amritsar with 2,280 Alprazolam and 1,220 Tramadol tablets. Further investigation uncovered a local distribution chain, leading to several arrests and follow-up searches that resulted in the recovery of 21,400 more Tramadol and 43,000 Alprazolam tablets.

In a parallel case (Feb 2025), a separate seizure of 5,000 Tramadol Hydrochloride (Trek-100) tablets in Amritsar led investigators to a chain extending into Tarn Taran, Dehradun, and Manawala. The source trail pointed

toward the illegal supply of pharmaceutical medicines by individuals operating without valid licenses, supported by dummy medical setups.

Investigations in both cases revealed involvement of same pharmaceutical manufacturing company that is J R pharma based in Haridwar which led to suspicion and through investigation conducted so far, has disclosed large-scale diversion of pharmaceuticals medicine by M/s J R Pharmaceuticals, Haridwar (Uttarakhand), and another Private Limited pharma company, Dehradun (Uttarakhand).

The initial raid conducted in the month of February 2025 at J R Pharmaceuticals led to seizures of 16,860 Tramadol tablets, 327 bottles of Codeine-based cough syrup, and 2.55 lakh loose Tramadol tablets (80.7 kg) hidden in drums. Further raids in the same month, based on information provided during interrogation, led to the seizure of 889,064 CBCS bottles held without valid documentation purportedly for diversion.

Investigation further revealed that several front stockist firms were found to be fake or non-operational and diversions of the drugs were carried out using them. one such firm, M/s Tiwari Medical Agency, Dehradun was found upon verification to be a sweet /tailor shop and proprietor of firm was found to be working as a maid. while other firms, M/s Kavati Health Care Pvt Ltd, Dehradun, and M/s Life Care Pharma, Kolkata found to be non-existent at declared address.

The NCB is actively coordinating with the GST Department, State Drug Controllers, Income Tax Authorities, CBN, and financial institutions to uncover the full extent of the drug diversion network. Assistance of State Police is sought as and when required.

On 20th April 2025 around 1.17 crores tablets of Tramadol and Alprazolam were seized by NCB from the premises of Aashi Pharma, Bawana, Delhi.

Investigation conducted so far led to cumulative seizure is 1.42 crore (approx. 3700 kg) plus tablets and 9,01,084 CBCS bottles (approx. 135 tons) and 2.9 kg tramadol powder and arrest of 24 accused from 04 different states in last four months. Leads about involvement others, have also been revealed during investigation and more seizure are expected in next few weeks.