16.43 kg Illicit Opium Concealed in Car Detected, Two Arrested

- *The Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN), Rajasthan Unit, seized **16.43 kg of illicit opium** from a Maruti Suzuki Brezza car at Hanging Bridge Toll Plaza, Kota, on 18 November 2026.*
- *Acting on specific intelligence about opium transportation from Jhalawar to Jaipur, CBN officers intercepted the vehicle near Kota Bypass on National Highway 27.*
- *A detailed search led to the recovery of **nine packets of opium concealed inside the vehicle's spare wheel (stepney)**.*
- *Two occupants of the vehicle were arrested under the relevant provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985, and the vehicle was seized.*
- *Further investigation is underway to identify the source of the contraband and trace the individuals and organised networks involved in its procurement, transportation and distribution.*
- *During **January–October 2026**, CBN units collectively seized approximately **432 kg of opium in 62 cases** and arrested 74 suspects.*
- *CBN reiterated its zero-tolerance approach towards narcotics trafficking and commitment to dismantling organised drug-trafficking networks under the national **Drug-Free India** initiative.*

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The Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN), Rajasthan Unit, has seized 16.43 kg illegal opium concealed in the spare wheel (stepney) of a Maruti Suzuki Brezza car at the Hanging Bridge Toll Plaza, Kota, Rajasthan, on 18 November 2026. Two persons involved in the transportation of the contraband were arrested, and the vehicle used for its transportation was also seized.

Acting on specific intelligence regarding the transportation of a huge consignment of opium from Jhalawar to Jaipur in a Rajasthan-registered Brezza car, the CBN, Rajasthan Unit, swiftly constituted a dedicated team of officers on the morning of 18 November 2026. The team strategically deployed surveillance along the suspected route and maintained close

watch over the movement of the vehicle. Upon identifying the suspected car, the officers successfully intercepted it at the National Highway 27 near Kota Bypass, along with its two occupants.



Nine packets containing 16.43 kilograms illicit opium seized

A meticulous search of the vehicle led to the recovery of nine packets containing 16.43 kilogram illicit opium, ingeniously concealed inside the spare wheel (stepney) of the car. Following completion of the requisite legal formalities, the recovered contraband and the vehicle were seized, and both occupants were arrested under the relevant provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985.

Further investigation is underway to establish the source of the seized contraband and identify the individuals and organised networks involved in its procurement, transportation and distribution. Efforts are also being made to trace the wider linkages of the drug trafficking network.

This successful operation reflects the sustained efforts, vigilance and commitment of CBN officers towards curbing the menace of drug trafficking. In line with its zero-tolerance approach towards illicit narcotics, the Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN) remains committed not only to seizing illegal drugs but also to identifying and dismantling the trafficking networks and cartels involved in the narcotics trade. Such intelligence-based enforcement actions will continue as part of the endeavor to achieve a **Drug-Free India**.

In calendar year 2026, all units of Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN) have seized approximately 432 kg opium in 62 cases and arrested 74 suspects till Oct. 2026.

As part of the national endeavor towards a **Drug-Free India**, the CBN will continue to intensify intelligence-led enforcement operations and take stringent action against those involved in narcotics trafficking.