

Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN) Seizes Pain Killer Opioid Tablets from Delhi Warehouse Destined for Libya, Three Arrested

- Entire consignment seized from a warehouse in Delhi; three key suspects arrested from Bengaluru and Kochi
- *The **Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN)**, under the **Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance**, seized **12 crore (120 million) Tramadol Hydrochloride (250 mg) tablets** weighing about **30 metric tonnes**.*
- *The operation, codenamed "**Operation Vajra**", was conducted between **10–20 July 2026** across **Delhi, Bengaluru, and Kochi**.*
- *The entire consignment was seized from a **warehouse in Delhi**, preventing its diversion into illegal international drug trafficking networks.*
- *The shipment was officially destined for **Guinea-Bissau**, but investigations revealed it was intended to be **diverted to Libya**.*
- ***Three key accused** were arrested:*
 - *One director of a Bengaluru-based LLP.*
 - *Two principal conspirators from Kochi, Kerala.*
- *The accused were arrested under the **Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985**.*
- *CBN's **risk-based export control mechanism** detected multiple red flags, triggering detailed scrutiny.*
- *The investigation, conducted with the **International Narcotics Control Board (INCB)** and Guinea-Bissau authorities, confirmed that the declared export destination had been misrepresented.*
- *The operation involved close coordination with the **Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI)** and other enforcement agencies.*
- *The seizure prevented a large quantity of illicit synthetic opioids from reaching **conflict zones**, strengthening global pharmaceutical supply chain security.*
- *The operation highlights India's **intelligence-led enforcement, inter-agency coordination**, and commitment to combating **transnational drug trafficking** under the **NDPS Act, 1985**.*

- CBN reaffirmed its commitment to the Government's vision of **"Nasha Mukht Bharat"** and preventing the misuse of pharmaceutical drugs.

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The **Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN)**, under the Department of Revenue (DoR), Ministry of Finance, prevented illegal trafficking and diversion of export consignment comprising **120 million (12 crore) high-strength Tramadol Hydrochloride (250 mg) tablets**, weighing approximately **30 metric tons (30,000 kg)**, arrested three key persons, including one from Bengaluru and two from Kochi.



Preliminary investigation indicated that the consignment, ostensibly destined for Guinea-Bissau, appeared to be intended for diversion to Libya. The entire consignment was seized from a warehouse in Delhi, thereby preventing its diversion into illicit international channels.



The operation, codenamed **"Operation Vajra"**, was carried out by preventive teams of the Central Bureau of Narcotics, Gwalior, during the period between 10th and 20th July 2026 across **Bengaluru, Delhi and Kochi**, with effective and efficient coordination from the **Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) Bengaluru, DRI Kochi** and **others agencies**.

Intelligence was gathered that 120 million (12 crore) Tramadol tablets destined for Guinea-Bissau are intended for diversion to Libya. During scrutiny under CBN's robust risk-based export control mechanism, multiple risk indicators were identified, prompting a detailed examination and coordination. Subsequent enquiries undertaken by CBN in coordination with the **International Narcotics Control Board (INCB)** and the competent authorities of **Guinea-Bissau** established that the declared destination had been misrepresented, revealing an attempt to facilitate diversion of the consignment.

Based on the findings of the examination, CBN conducted coordinated enforcement action in Bengaluru and arrested the **Director of Bengaluru-based Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) firm** under the relevant provisions of the NDPS Act, 1985. Further investigation revealed that the principal conspirators were operating from Kerala. Despite repeated attempts to evade law enforcement, sustained intelligence gathering led to the apprehension of the remaining two key conspirators from Kochi. **All three accused have been arrested under the NDPS Act, 1985.** Further investigation is in progress.

The alert vigilance by CBN India successfully prevented a massive influx of illicit synthetic opioids into active conflict zones. This operation highlights, risk-based profiling and robust intelligence sharing between international law enforcement agencies and cooperation among National agencies to secure global pharmaceutical supply chains.

The successful execution of "**Operation Vajra**" underscores the effectiveness of **intelligence-led enforcement, inter-agency coordination and international cooperation** in combating transnational organised drug trafficking and reflects India's robust regulatory framework under the NDPS Act, 1985.

The Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN) remains committed to safeguarding India's **regulatory framework and dismantling transnational drug trafficking networks** in furtherance of the Government's vision of **Nasha Mukh Bharat** and **safe use of drugs**.