



## Press Release

22.10.2024

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), New Delhi has **arrested 6 persons** namely Lovejit Singh @Labba s/o Jarnail Singh, Manjeet Singh @ Manna s/o Jarnail Singh on 11.10.2024, Prabhjit Singh s/o Sewa Singh, Gurjot Singh, S/o Jasveer Singh, Ramandeep Singh s/o Avtar Singh on 18.10.2024 and Gurpreet Singh S/o Manmohan Singh on 20.10.2024 in connection with an investigation under PMLA linked to a **cross-border drugs smuggling network**.

A major drug trafficking operation involving smuggling of Heroin from Afghanistan into India was unearthed during investigation. The PMLA investigation was initiated on the basis of seizure of 293.81 Kg. of heroin from containers imported by M/s Sandhu Exports at Nhava Sheva Port by DRI and seizure of 352.71 Kg. of heroin from 02 vehicles and a flat in Faridabad, Haryana by the Delhi Police Special Cell. Thus, a total of **646.52 Kg.** of Heroin has been seized so far.

ED investigation revealed that the arrested persons i.e. Lovejit Singh, Manjeet Singh, Ramandeep Singh, Gurjot Singh, Gurpreet Singh and Prabhjit Singh, coordinated the smuggling, storage and distribution of Heroin across Punjab, Haryana, and Delhi. These individuals were key members of a syndicate that smuggled Heroin from Afghanistan and Iran concealing them within shipments of talc stone and gypsum powder. Accused persons incorporated M/s Sandhu Exports, a front company owned by Prabhjit Singh, to carry out the smuggling of drugs.

ED uncovered the highly sophisticated Heroin smuggling and money laundering network where identification of multiple bank accounts, cash transactions, and operational expenses by the accused has been made. Accused disguised the origin of the illicit funds, which were further layered and integrated into seemingly legitimate financial activities. It was also revealed that the syndicate did not make any payments to Afghan suppliers until the drugs were sold in local market. Further, the accused used cash payments to purchase multiple vehicles including Toyota Fortuner, Etios, Hyundai Verna etc, in second hand market for trafficking from the storage Hubs to further distribution.

ED investigation revealed that cash was used for purchase of high end smartphones and encrypted communication apps were used to coordinate smuggling activities. Drugs smuggled from Iran and Afghanistan used to be imported via Nava Sheva port in Mumbai, later stored at a rented godown in Shivpuri Madhya Pradesh and further distributed for local supply in parts of Delhi, Punjab and Haryana. Transportation was carried out in lesser quantities of 10 kg to prevent detection by law enforcement agencies.

Earlier, a property in Jandoli Village (Rajpura, Punjab), multiple bank accounts in the names of accused persons, and fixed deposits have been attached by ED.

Further investigation is under progress.