

## Press Release

### Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) destroys large quantities of Narcotics and Psychotropic Drugs and Substances across the country

Dealing a debilitating blow to the smugglers of prohibited Narcotics and Psychotropic Drugs and Substances, the Customs formations under the CBIC carried out an All India destruction of huge quantity of seized/ confiscated Narcotics and Psychotropic Drugs and Substances (NDPS), whose trade is prohibited, on 24.01.2020. This is the first time ever that narcotics and psychotropic drugs and substances have been simultaneously destroyed in an All India operation.

The substances destroyed include Cannabis (11,326 Kgs), Heroin (251 Kgs), Ephedrine (316 Kgs), Ketamine (321 Kgs), Ecstasy tablets (3549 Nos.), Phensedyl (25,400 Bottles), Amphetamine (4896 Bottles), other NDPS drugs (56Kgs) etc. valued at around Rs 79 crores in the International market. The destruction took place at Bhopal, Patna, Lucknow, Chennai, Pune, Shillong, Delhi, and Mumbai.

Apart from the deleterious impact on the academic, social, psychological, physiological and economic development of the people consuming drugs, the drug menace also imposes a high cost on their families. To further boost the public awareness of the perils of the drug abuse, mass media coverage was initiated to witness the destruction of the seized drugs/ substances at various places across the country.

The efforts of the Customs department in acting as a bulwark against curbing the drug menace in general and as an alert enforcement agency against the import of banned substances in particular, were appreciated on the occasion.

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