

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA DRUGS CONTROL ADMINISTRATION



Press Release

In a major breakthrough on the illegal manufacturing and supply of spurious/counterfeit drugs, the joint operation conducted by Drug Control Administration, Telangana, Commissioner's Task Force, Hyderabad, and Malakpet Police, dismantled an inter-state network operating from a pharma factory named Nectar Herbs and Drugs, located in Kotdwar, Uttarakhand.

For the first time, a meticulously coordinated inter-state operation named "Operation JAI" was executed by the Drug Control Administration, Telangana, Commissioner's Task Force, Hyderabad, and Malakpet Police. The operation led to the busting of a 'Spurious Drug Manufacturing Unit' located in Kotdwar, Uttarakhand.

Nectar Herbs and Drugs, located in Kotdwar, Uttarakhand, was found to be manufacturing counterfeit drugs (spurious drugs) and distributing them to several states, including Telangana.

The details are as follows:

On 27th February, acting on intelligence gathered regarding the movement of spurious drugs, Drugs Control Administration, Telangana and officers from the Commissioner's Task Force, Hyderabad, carried out a raid at Malakpet.

During the raid, DCA officials found three cartons containing a total of 27,200 tablets of the spurious antibiotic "MPOD-200 Tablets" (Cefpodoxime Proxetil & Lactic Acid Bacillus Tablets), worth **Rs. 7.34 lakhs.** These tablets were labeled as manufactured by 'Meg Lifesciences, Khasara No. 47/5, Palli Gaon, Distt. Sirmour, 173 001,' which is a fictitious/non-existent company.

A person named Aravapalli Satyanarayana was caught selling the spurious drug stocks to Vangari Naveen near Moosarambagh X Roads.

Upon enquiry, Aravapalli Satyanarayana revealed that he had purchased the spurious medicines from Gandla Ramulu of Meerpet.

Officers apprehended Aravapalli Satyanarayana, Vangari Naveen, and Gandla Ramulu.

During interrogation, Gandla Ramulu revealed that the spurious drugs were received from Vishad Kumar of Kotdwar, Uttarakhand. He further disclosed that Vishad Kumar manufactures spurious drugs at his company, Nectar Herbs and Drugs, located at Kotdwar, Uttarakhand, along with a person named Sachin Kumar. Ramulu admitted to placing orders for spurious drugs to Sachin Kumar and Vishad Kumar through WhatsApp calls.

A Joint Action Team has been formed by the Drugs Control Administration, Commissioner's Task Force, Hyderabad, and Malakpet Police.

Special teams from the Drugs Control Administration, Commissioner's Task Force, Hyderabad and Malakpet Police proceeded to **Uttarakhand** to trace the manufacturing location of spurious/counterfeit drugs.

In a coordinated operation, officers from the Drugs Control Administration, Telangana, Commissioner's Task Force, Hyderabad, and

Drugs located at Plot No. B-19, IIE, SIDCUL, Sigaddi, Kotdwar, Pauri Garhwal District, Uttarakhand. A surprise raid was conducted on 29th February, during which the manufacturing of counterfeit/spurious Cefixime Tablets IP 200 mg, falsely claimed as 'Omnicef-O 200 Tablets,' was detected. The drug was falsely labeled as manufactured by Aristo Pharmaceuticals Pvt. Ltd., bearing Batch No. Batch No. BPF232040, Mfg. Date: June-2023, Exp. Dt. May-2025.

The manufacturing of spurious drugs was being carried out by Sachin Kumar of Roorkee, Uttarakhand. He brought fake labels (pre-printed aluminium foils and other packing materials) of reputed companies to Nectar Herbs and Drugs in Kotdwar, Uttarakhand, in his vehicle along with three workers.

Sachin Kumar had the counterfeit labels, including aluminum foils and cartons, manufactured at Vaishnavi Printers (Vaishnavi Printing Press) in Bhagvanpur, Roorkee, Uttarakhand.

Vishad Kumar, the CEO of Nectar Herbs and Drugs, allowed Sachin Kumar to manufacture spurious drugs at his manufacturing facility for a payment of Rs 35,000/- for 1,00,000 dummy tablets. Bhavana, a worker at Nectar Herbs and Drugs, manufactured dummy tablets with chalk powder upon intimation from Sachin Kumar.

Sachin Kumar packed the dummy tablets with the labels of the reputed company Aristo, falsely claiming them to be Antibiotic drug 'Cefixime Tablets'.

During interrogation, Sachin Kumar revealed that he manufactured counterfeit/spurious drugs of reputed companies such as GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), Alkem, Aristo and Cipla. Counterfeits of Augmentin-625, Clavum-625,

Omnicef-O 200, Montair-LC, etc., were manufactured by Sachin Kumar at Nectar Herbs and Drugs, Uttarakhand. Sachin Kumar also admitted that he received orders regarding spurious drugs from Gandla Ramulu of Hyderabad.

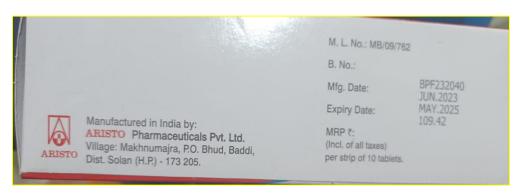
Photographs of Dummy Tablets detected at Nectar Herbs and Drugs, <u>Uttarakhand</u>





Photographs of Counterfeit / Spurious drug detected at Nectar Herbs and Drugs







Sachin Kumar, Vishad Kumar, and Bhavana are involved in the manufacturing of spurious drugs at Nectar Herbs and Drugs in Uttarakhand and distributing them to several states across the country through couriers.

Sachin Kumar and Vishad Kumar, who are the prime accused in the spurious drug manufacturing case, were apprehended by the special team.

Officers seized the 38,350 tablets (3835 strips) of counterfeit Omnicef-O 200 Tablets (Cefixime Tablets IP 200 mg) labelled as Batch No. BPF232040, Mfg. Date: June-2023, Exp. Dt. May-2025 falsely labeled as Manufactured by: Aristo Pharmaceuticals Pvt. Ltd., 60.27 Kgs of orange coloured tablets, 65.27 of white coloured tablets, 30.18 Kgs of counterfeit Omnicef-O 200 Aluminium Foil, 33.45 Kgs of counterfeit Omnicef-O 200 Cartons (packing material). The officers seized stocks worth a total of Rs. 44.33 lakhs during the raid at Nectar Herbs and Drugs in Uttarakhand.

The special team has made inter-state arrests, and a case has been registered against the offenders.

Officers from Police Department viz. Sri. Parasuram, Inspector of Police, Commissioner's Task Force, Hyderabad-South-West Zone and Sri. Ajeeth Singh, Sub-inspector of Police, Commissioner's Task Force, Hyderabad-South-West Zone and other Commissioner's Task Force, Hyderabad staff and Officers from Drugs Control Administration viz. Drugs Inspectors Sri. B. Lakshmi Narayana, Sri. V. Ravikumar, and Sri. G. Anil are among the officers who carried out a raid at Malakpet.

Officers from Police Department viz. Ch. Suresh, Sub-inspector, Malakpet Police Station, Sri. N. Nagesh, Sub-inspector, Commissioner's Task Force, Hyderabad-South-West Zone and Constables Sri. B. Srikanth, Sri. A.

Vidhyadhar, Sri. K. Pramod Kumar and Officers from Drugs Control

Administration viz. Drugs Inspectors Sri. M. Chandrasekhar, Sri. J. Kiran Kumar

carried out raids at Nectar Herbs and Drugs, Kotdwar, Uttarakhand.

Officers from Police Department viz. Sri. Ajeeth Singh, Sub-inspector of

Police, Commissioner's Task Force, Hyderabad-South-West Zone, Head

Constable Sri. B. Mohan Rao and Constable Sri. G. Yashwanth Kumar and

Officers from Drugs Control Administration viz. Sri. M. Varaprasad, Sri. K.

Anvesh, Sri. A.N. Kranthi Kumar, and Sri. T. Shiva Teja carried out raids at

various locations in Uttarakhand.

Ms. S. Rashmi Perumal, IPS, Deputy Commissioner of Police,

Commissioner's Task Force, Hyderabad extended essential support to the

officers, ensuring the successful execution of the special operation.

Ms. Jaya Baloni, IPS, Superintendent of Police, Kotdwar, Uttarakhand,

provided the required assistance to the officers from Telangana in successfully

completing the special operation in Uttarakhand.

Further investigation will be carried out, and action will be taken as per

the law against all the offenders.

Spurious drugs are a major threat to public health. Spurious drugs place

the patient's health at grave risk. Spurious drugs not only fail to cure the

disease but over time, create disastrous consequences for the patient.

Date: 01-03-2024

V.B. KAMALASAN REDDY, IPS

DIRECTOR GENERAL

Photographs of Spurious Drugs Seizure at Malakpet





Accused (Hyderabad – Spurious Drugs Sale) – 1) Gandla Ramulu, 2) Vangari Naveen, 3) Aravapalli Satyanarayana

Photographs of Raid at Nectar Herbs and Drugs, located in Kotdwar, <u>Uttarakhand</u>







Accused (Uttarakhand – Spurious Drug Manufacturing)
– 1) Vishad Kumar, 2) Sachin Kumar
