PRESS RELEASE

06.02.2026

Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Jalandhar Zonal Office, has filed a Prosecution Complaint on 06.02.2026 before the Hon'ble Special Court for PMLA at Mohali, under Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, against Abhishek Kumar, Soul Healthcare (I) Pvt Ltd, M/s Aster Pharma and other related persons, in connection with a money laundering investigation related to inter-state drug trafficking network involved in supplying of psychotropic/intoxicant substances (namely Tramadol, Alprazolam etc.) illegally.

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR registered by Punjab Police under various sections of NDPS Act 1985, on recovery of Tramadol based tablets along with drug money in cash from drug peddlers.

ED investigation revealed that the middle men, namely M/s Shri Shyam Medical Agency, M/s MP Traders and M/s Kanix Pharma were procuring huge quantities of psychotropic tablets from pharmaceutical firms/manufacturing companies and were diverting it for sale in cash without maintenance of proper bills, prescriptions and stock register, through drug peddlers. It was found that M/s Soul Healthcare (I) Pvt Ltd, manufacturer of tramadol based tablet, and a distributor, M/s Aster Pharma, were involved in the illegal sale of the psychotropic tablets and received the proceeds of crime in cash. The distributors were directly transporting the tablets through courier service to middle men mentioned above from the manufacturing plants who then further sold to drug peddlers. The cash amount equal to invoice value was deposited in the bank accounts and transferred thereafter whereas the excess amount was handed over personally in cash.

Earlier, searches were conducted on 17.06.2025 under the provisions of Section 17 of PMLA, 2002 and cash of Rs 4 Lakh and incriminating records establishing the financial trail and uncovering the modus operandi of the entities involved were recovered and seized. Further, ED had arrested Abhishek Kumar of M/s Shri Shyam Medical Agency on 09.12.2025 under the provisions of the PMLA, 2002, and presently is in judicial custody. Also, assets worth Rs. 2.19 Crore, in the form of movable and immovable properties of Akhil Jai Singh of M/s Aster Pharma, Soul Healthcare, Alex Paliwal of M/s Kanix Pharma, Ankit Kumar of M/s MP Traders and Santosh Tiwari were provisionally attached vide Provisional Attachment Order No 1/2026 dated 02.02.2026.

ED investigation revealed a network spanning manufacturers, distributors, and retailers engaged in the illegal trade of psychotropic tablets that endangers society through widespread misuse and addiction.

Further investigation is under progress.