

## Prohibited medicines worth 11cr found in Meerut godown

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Four persons have been arrested while names of three more suspects have surfaced, said a Punjab police team from Ludhiana.

MEERUT: At least 43 lakh tablets, syrups and injections meant for use at de-addiction and rehabilitation centres and worth Rs 11 crore in the open market were recovered during a raid by a Punjab police team from Ludhiana. Four persons have been arrested while names of three more suspects have surfaced, the police said.

According to UP Police, the seized [drugs](#) were meant for de-addiction centres and its sale in the open market is prohibited under the [Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act](#). These tablets include Tramadol, V Dol and Diazepam, among other drugs, used as painkillers and to treat alcohol withdrawal symptoms.

During the initial interrogation, it came to fore that the drugs were being procured from a [Meerut](#) based pharma firm licenced for the manufacturing of the prohibited drugs and being peddled in Punjab.

"We had arrested two accused on March 1 in Ludhiana and recovered 1.5 lakh tablets of Tramadol. The drug bust and the subsequent interrogation led to a supply chain in Meerut. During the raid, we recovered 43 lakh units of these drugs which are prohibited for open sale under section 22 of the [NDPS Act](#)," Wrayam Singh Khera, Ludhiana ACP (Central) said on Thursday.

In Meerut, a gang in connivance with staffers of the pharma company was supplying the prohibited drugs to open markets in Punjab which was later peddled in retail to addicts. Four suspects, including three who are owners of medical stores in Meerut, have been arrested.

"The drug was being manufactured by a Meerut based pharmaceutical company in the Partapur industrial area. The consignment of drugs recovered from a godown in Mohiuddinpur area is estimated to be around Rs 11 crore in the open market," a sleuth in Meerut who was part of the raid said.

Three arrested accused - identified as Sadiq, Jaan Saifi and Sriprakash Goyal - run medical stores in the city. They used to take orders from their associates in Punjab and later one Farzaan used to help in the dispatch of the drugs through courier.

"We have documentary evidence, transaction details and call recordings of suspects involved in sending these drugs through courier from Meerut and the ones receiving it in Punjab," the Ludhiana ACP (Central) added.

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