



भारत सरकार/ Government of India

मुख्य आयुक्त का कार्यालय, जीएसटी, केंद्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क एवं सीमा शुल्क  
केंद्रीय राजस्व भवन, राजस्व विहार, भुवनेश्वर, ओडिशा, 751007

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER, GST, CENTRAL EXCISE AND CUSTOMS, BHUBANESWAR ZONE

**CR Building, Rajaswa Vihar, Bhubaneswar, Odisha- 751007**

☎ 0674-2589935

☎ 0674-2589938

✉ ccu-cexbbr@nic.in

**Press release**

**Date: 01.12.2023**

**Bhubaneswar Customs seizes more than 20 kg of cocaine valued at approx.  
Rs. 220 crores at Paradip Port**

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Based on intelligence that few suspected packets, likely to be Narcotics drugs are concealed in a Panama registered Ship, namely, MV Debi berthed at Paradip International Cargo Terminal, Paradip, that had arrived from Gresik port, Indonesia in ballast, the Customs officers of the Bhubaneswar Customs (preventive) Commissionerate searched the ship on midnight of 30.11.2023 and on 1.12.2023.

During the search, a total of 22 packets (wrapped and affixed with magnet) were recovered from the cranes of the ship containing a hardened but brittle white substance suspected to be narcotic drugs. Initial testing by the Special Intelligence and Investigation (SIIB) team of the Bhubaneswar Customs (Preventive) Commissionerate revealed that the substance is possibly Cocaine, a narcotic drug under the NDPS Act 1985. A total of 22 kg of such drugs valued at around Rs. 220 cr in the international grey market was recovered.

All the crew members working onboard the ship are from Vietnam. The ship is registered in Panama and is operated by the Asia Pacific Shipping Co. Ltd. The suspected ship is having its last port of call from Gresik Port, Indonesia and destined to Denmark.

The suspected cocaine samples are to be sent to govt laboratory to ascertain the exact nature and chemical composition of the goods. Further rummaging and searching of the ship with the help of sniffer dogs is underway.



-Sd-  
Commissioner of Customs  
Bhubaneswar Zone