

Press Note

Press Note No. 36/DCA/2025

Date: 19-03-2025

A) Drugs Control Administration, Telangana, seized **Spurious Drugs (Counterfeit Versions) 'Montek-LC' Tablets (Montelukast Sodium and Levocetirizine Hydrochloride Tablets), **falsely** claimed to be manufactured by Sun Pharma Laboratories Ltd.**

During the raids conducted by DCA based on gathered intelligence, **counterfeit versions** of **'Montek-LC' Tablets** were detected circulating in the market at Second Bazar, Secunderabad. The stocks were seized during the raids.

B) In separate events, Drugs Control Administration, Telangana conducted raids on clinics operated by **quacks and seized illegally stocked drugs intended for sale at two separate locations, including:**

- a) Pashamylaram Village, Patancheru Mandal, Sangareddy District
- b) Bowrampet Village, Dundigal Gandimaisamma Mandal, Medchal-Malkajgiri District

C) In a separate event, the DCA seized **'Nagakesaramulu Choornam,' an Ayurvedic medicine, in **Kanukunta Village, Ramachandrapuram Mandal, Sangareddy District,** for making **misleading advertisement** that it treats **'Sterility'.****

A) Seizure of Spurious Drugs (Counterfeit Versions) ‘Montek-LC’ Tablets (Montelukast Sodium and Levocetirizine Hydrochloride Tablets), falsely claimed to be manufactured by Sun Pharma Laboratories Ltd.

Based on intelligence gathered by Drugs Control Administration officials, raids were conducted at several dealers in Hyderabad, leading to the detection of Spurious Drugs (Counterfeit Versions) ‘Montek-LC’ Tablets (Montelukast Sodium and Levocetirizine Hydrochloride Tablets) circulating in the market.

‘Montek-LC’ Tablets are used in the management of signs and symptoms of allergic rhinitis, chronic idiopathic urticaria and bronchial asthma.

During the raids, Drugs Inspectors detained the stocks and obtained a comparison statement for the suspected batches from the original manufacturer, Sun Pharma Laboratories Ltd., with the original batches. The manufacturer also concluded that the batch of ‘Montek-LC’ Tablets (Montelukast Sodium and Levocetirizine Hydrochloride Tablets) detained by the Drugs Control Administration were **“Spurious Drugs/Counterfeit Drugs”**.

During the raid conducted on 18th March, 2025 at Sri Nirmala Pharma, H.No: 8-3-60, Second Bazar, Secunderabad, seized a counterfeit version of **‘Montek-LC’ Tablets** (Montelukast Sodium and Levocetirizine Hydrochloride Tablets), Batch No.: SIE1910A, Mfg. Date: 07/2023, Exp. Date: 12/2025, falsely claimed to be manufactured by Sun Pharma Laboratories Ltd., Plot No.107-108, Namli Block, P.O Ranipool, East- Sikkim.

Counterfeit Version of 'Montek-LC' Tablets (Montelukast Sodium and Levocetirizine Hydrochloride Tablets), Batch No.: SIE1910A Seized by DCA



Photograph of the Seizure



Smt. D. Saritha, Assistant Director, Secunderabad, Sri. M. Surendranath, Drugs Inspector, Begumpet and Smt. P. Renuka, Drugs Inspector, Musheerabad carried out the raids.

Further investigation will be conducted, and appropriate action will be taken against all offenders.

Spurious drugs pose a significant threat to public health, endangering patients' well-being. These drugs not only fail to treat the intended disease but also can lead to severe health complications over time. DCA is actively working to ensure the removal of spurious drugs from the market.

B) Raids conducted at quacks' clinics:

The details are as follows:

Based on credible information, on 18th March, officials from the Drugs Control Administration raided the premises of quacks who were claiming themselves as 'Rural Medical Practitioners' and practicing medicine without proper qualifications at their clinics.

During the raids at the following premises, substantial quantities of medicines **stocked for sale without a drug license** were found.

Sl. No.	Name of the Quack	Address of the premises	Varieties of medicines found stocked
1	G. Radharukmini	ABRS First Aid Centre, Pashamylaram Village, Patancheru Mandal, Sangareddy District	20 varieties

2.	Shaik Jani Basha	Sri Sai First Aid centre, Near GHMC water tank, Bowrampet Village, Dundigal Gandimaisamma Mandal, Medchal-Malkajgiri District	35 varieties
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Medicines, including antibiotics, anti-ulcer drugs, analgesics, etc., were found stocked at the premises.

DCA officials detected several **'antibiotics'** viz., Ceftriaxone, Cefixime, Cefpodoxime, etc. at the clinics during the raids. Indiscriminate sale of antibiotics, by unqualified persons may have disastrous consequences on the health of public, including emergence of **'Antimicrobial Resistance'**.

DCA officials seized the stocks, worth a total of **Rs. 40,000** during the raids.

M. Varaprasad, Drugs Inspector, Pashamylaram and Smt. M. Hemalatha, Drugs Inspector, Gandimaisamma carried out the raids. DCA officers lifted the samples for analysis. Further investigation will be carried out, and action will be taken as per the law against all the offenders.

Wholesalers/Dealers who supply medicines to such unqualified persons/unlicensed entities, who are stocking and selling drugs without a drug license, are also punishable under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, and stringent action shall be taken against such Wholesalers/Dealers. Wholesalers/Dealers shall mandatorily ensure that the recipient entities hold a valid drug license before supplying medicines to them. **Stocking drugs for sale without a drug license is punishable under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, with imprisonment for up to five years.**

C) Seizure of drugs for misleading advertisements:

The details are as follows:

Drugs Control Administration, Telangana officials, detected an Ayurvedic medicine '**Nagakesaramulu Chooram,**' moving in the market with **misleading claim** on its labels that it treats '**Sterility**' which is a contravention of the **Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Act, 1954.**

Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Act, 1954 prohibits advertisement of certain drugs for treatment of certain diseases and disorders. No person shall take part in publication of advertisement regarding the diseases/disorders indicated under Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Act, 1954.

During the raid conducted on **18th March** to detect medicines moving in the market with misleading and objectionable advertisements, DCA officials detected '**Nagakesaramulu Chooram,**' Manufactured by: Grovel Drugs & Chemicals Pvt. Ltd, Herbal & Ayurvedic Division # 34-B, Anrich, IDA Bollaram, Sangareddy District.

The said ayurvedic medicine was detected by DCA officials at a medical store in **Kanukunta Village, Ramachandrapuram Mandal, Sangareddy District.** Stocks were seized during the raid.

Sri. M. Chandrasekhar, Drugs Inspector, Patancheru carried out the raid. Further investigation shall be carried out and action shall be taken as per the law against all the offenders.

Photograph of the product seized for making misleading advertisement



Persons who make misleading advertisements regarding drugs for treatment of certain diseases and disorders are punishable under Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Act, 1954, with imprisonment which may extend to six months, or with fine, or with both.

The public may report any suspected manufacturing activity related to drugs, including narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, in residential, commercial, or industrial areas, as well as any other complaints regarding illegal activities concerning medicines, through the **Drugs Control Administration, Telangana Toll-Free Number 1800-599-6969**, which is operational from 10:30 am to 5:00 pm on all working days.

Date: 19-03-2025

**V.B. KAMALASAN REDDY, IPS
DIRECTOR GENERAL**
