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Bullion trader arrested for supplying drugs at parties

He's Said To Have Links With Two Others In Custody

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Sleuths from Central Crime Branch (CCB) on Saturday arrested **Vaibhav Jain**, a bullion trader and resident of Jayanagar, on charges of supplying drugs in parties attended by Sandalwood stars and socialites. This takes the number of arrests in the alleged peddling case to 10.



Jain, in his 30s, had been named by RTO official Ravishankar (arrested in another case) as a regular at parties hosted in clubs and resorts and as the main supplier of drugs, especially ecstasy pills. Jain, who is also a party promoter, is allegedly linked to Vikas Khanna and Rahul Tonse, who are also in custody. He's accused number five in the FIR registered by CCB under Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, at Cottonpet

HDK, Zameer lock horns over Sri Lanka visit

Friends-turned-foes HD Kumaraswamy and Zameer Ahmed Khan on Saturday locked horns over their Colombo visit. Zameer, whose visit to a casino in Colombo in 2017 is being linked to ongoing investigation into the drug racket, strongly defended it, adding that the entire JD(S) Legislature Party had visited Sri Lanka.



"Of course, I go to Colombo and casinos. Is it illegal? Most Karnataka legislators visit casinos in Colombo. To be honest, more BJP MLAs go there than legislators of other political parties," claimed the Congress MLA. He added, "When in JD(S), I went there (Colombo) with HD Kumaraswamy and 26 MLAs. Barring former minister HD Revanna and one party MLA, all legislators took the trip and visited casinos also."

Irrked by the mention of his party's name, Kumaraswamy took to Twitter to hit back at Zameer. "Myself and my party MLAs had visited Colombo in 2014 to discuss party matters. We did not go to Sri Lanka secretly. We had made a public announcement about our visit. We had even released video footage of our meeting in Colombo..." he tweeted.

police station. "Jain played a vital role in supplying drugs at parties and other places like houses of the other accused. We have evidence in the form of pictures, mobile texts and videos

Lawmakers want all-party meet

Some lawmakers urged the CM to convene an all-party meeting involving MLAs, MLCs and MPs to discuss the drug scandal. "We must come together and commit not to interfere in the probe," said BJP MLC Lahar Singh Siroya. Not just political parties, even educational institutions, pubs and bars should be made accountable if police find students or others using drugs, he said.

Activist appears before CCB

In response to a notice sent to him, activist Prashant Sambargi appeared before CCB police on Saturday. In a four-hour long interaction, he gave details of prominent personalities visiting Colombo in Sri Lanka last year to attend a party where drugs were supplied, said police. He also shared names of a film producer and distributor, saying they have a lot of information on peddling.



Ganja haul: 5 cops suspended

After a Bengaluru police team unearthed a major haul of ganja in Kalaburagi on Thursday, five cops from Kalagi police station were suspended on Saturday for failing to discover the 1,200kg of ganja hidden in a bunker in a sheep pen just a km from the police station. Circle inspector Bojaraj Rathod, PSI Basavaraj Chitakoti, ASI Neelakantha and two beat constables Sharanappa and Anil are the suspended cops.

to establish his connection with the case," an investigating officer said

Producer's bail plea hearing tomorrow

A local court will hear film

producer Shivaprakash's plea for anticipatory bail on Monday, sources said. "We are ready with the objections and are confident of getting the bail cancelled. He is yet to be arrested," an officer said.