# BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE TAXES & EXCISE-CUM-EXCISE COMMISSIONER HIMACHAL PRADESH

Case No.: 07/2024

Date of Institution: 21-05-2024

Date of Order: 03-07-2024

#### IN THE MATTER OF:

M/s Biogenetic Drug Private Limited, C/o Smilax Healthcare Drugs Co. Plot No. 23, EPIP-Village Jharmajri, Tehsil Baddi, District Solan (HP) (MD-VI, Licensee, Year 2024-25)

#### Parties Represented by:-

- Sh. Bhupinder Singh, ACST&E (Legal Cell) for the Department.
- S/Sh. Vinod Kumar Choudhary, Manager (Accounts), M. B. Goyal, Chairman, Smilax Group and Bal Mohan Sharma, General Manager, Smilax Group, for the Noticee-Licensee.

## ORDER

# (Under Rule 50 of the Himachal Pradesh Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Rules, 1989)

- This order shall dispose of the proceedings initiated in pursuance of Show Cause Notice issued under proviso to Sub-section 1 of Rule 54 of the Himachal Pradesh Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Rules, 1989 (hereinafter referred to as "the Rules").
- 2. The brief facts in the case are that M/s Biogenetic Drug Private Limited C/o Smilax Healthcare Drugs Co. Plot No. 23, EPIP-Village Jharmajri, Tehsil Baddi, District Solan (HP), (hereinafter referred to as "the noticee") is a License holder (Loan Licensee of M/s Smilax Healthcare Drugs Co., Plot No. 23, EPIP-Village Jharmajri, Tehsil Baddi) in Form MD-VI, granted by this Department under the Himachal Pradesh Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Rules, 1989.

- 3. In reference with investigation in FIR No. 31 of 2024, dated 20-02-2024, registered under Sections 22, 25, 27-A and 29 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") at Police Station, STF SAS Nagar Mohali (Pb.), the State Drugs Controller, Controlling-cum-Licensing Authority, Himachal Pradesh, Baddi, District Solan (HP), vide order No. HFW-H(Drugs) 04/16-3748, dated 16-05-2024, cancelled, with immediate effect, the License No. MNB/05/150 and MB/05/151 granted to M/s Biogenetics Drugs Pvt. Ltd., Jharmajri, Baddi, Solan (HP) vis-à-vis product licenses/permission of all the drugs containing any active pharmaceutical ingredient which has a dual presence in Narcotics Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act as well as in the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules 1945 made there under. In addition to this, while cancelling the License No. MNB/15/901, MB/15/902, the parent as well as all the loan licenses granted under the parent firm M/s Smilax Healthcare Drugs Co., Plot No. 23, EPIP-I, Village Jharmajri, Tehsil Baddi, District Solan (HP) have also been cancelled vide order No. HFW-H(Drugs) 04/16-3855, dated 22-05-2024, by the Assistant Drugs Controller-cum-Licensing Authority, O/o State Drugs Controller, Baddi, District Solan (H.P.).
- 4. Now, for the violations of the terms and conditions of the granted license MD-VI and for non-compliance of the provisions as contained under proviso to Rule 50 of the Himachal Pradesh Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Rules, 1989, the licenses of both the above firms (the parent and loanee) have become liable for revocation or suspension under the Rule 54(1) of the HPNDPS Rules, 1989.
- 5. The Noticee, as per mandate of the proviso to Rule 54 (1) of the HP NDPS Rules, 1989, was accordingly provided an opportunity of being heard in the matter.
- 6. Shri Vinod Kumar Choudhary, Manager (Accounts), Shri M. B. Goyal, Chairman, Smilax Group and Shri Bal Mohan Sharma, General Manager, Noticee firm appeared in the matter and admitted that investigation in FIR No. 31 of 2024, mentioned above, pertains to Tramadol HCL, a psychotropic substance under the provisions of the

NDPS Act, 1985 read with Himachal Pradesh Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Rules, 1989. It was also submitted for the noticee that FIR is not related to codeine phosphate for which MD-VI has been issued. It is the case for the Noticee that the State Drugs Controller, Controlling-cum-Licensing Authority, Himachal Pradesh, Baddi, District Solan (HP) vide order No. HFW-H(Drugs) 04/16 3748, dated 16-05-2024, has cancelled, with immediate effect, the License No. MNB/05/150 and MB/05/151 vis-à-vis product licenses/permission of all the drugs containing any active pharmaceutical ingredient which has a dual presence in Narcotics Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act as well as in the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Drug Rules 1945, made there under, in respect of M/s Biogenetic Drug Private Limited, Jharmajri, Baddi, District Solan (HP). The Noticee, further admitted that by virtue of cancellation of parent Licence No. MNB/15/901, MB/15/902, all the loan licenses granted under parent . firm M/s Smilax Healthcare Drugs Co., Plot No. 23, EPIP-Village Jharmajri, Tehsil Baddi, District Solan (HP) have also been cancelled vide order No. HFW-H(Drugs) 04/16-3855, dated 22-05-2024, by the Assistant Drugs Controller-cum-Licensing Authority, O/o State Drugs Controller, Baddi, District Solan (H.P.). The noticee also submitted that as on today, it is not in possession of the necessary recommendation under Rule 50 (1) of the HPNDPS Rules, 1989, from the State Drug Controller as is mandatory for the grant of a Chemist's license in Form MD-VI. Though the noticee submitted that all the cancelled licenses under the Narcotics Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 as well as in the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Drug Rules 1945 are being revoked by the concerned Department, and sought time to produce the same. It was requested for the licensee that the license MD-VI may not, therefore, be revoked or suspended.

- Noticee-Licensee was granted a week's time to show the necessary documents and permission.
- 8. Sh. Bhupinder Singh, ACST&E (Legal Cell) for the Department, submitted that the cancelled product licenses/permission of all the drugs containing any active pharmaceutical ingredient which has a dual presence in Narcotics Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act has yet

not been revoked in respect of parent as well as loan licensee, therefore, the Noticee MD-VI License is liable to be revoked and may be revoked, accordingly.

9. I have heard both parties in the matter and gone through the case record. The noticee has admitted having violated the provisions of the NDPS Act, 1985 read with HPNDPS Rules, 1989 and, thus, the terms and conditions of MD-VI license are also violated. The documents available on record also reveal that the State Drugs Controller, Controlling-cum-Licensing Authority, Himachal Pradesh, Baddi, District Solan (HP) vide order No. HFW-H(Drugs) 04/16 3748, dated 16-05-2024, has cancelled, with immediate effect, the License No. MNB/05/150 and MB/05/151 vis-à-vis product licenses/permission of all the drugs containing any active pharmaceutical ingredient which has a dual presence in Narcotics Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act as well as in the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Drug Rules 1945, made there under, in respect of M/s Biogenetic Drug Private Limited, Jharmajri, Baddi, District Solan (HP), (the loan licensee). In addition to this, it is also on record, as well, that the Assistant Drugs Controllercum-Licensing Authority, BBN vide order dated 22-05-2024 has cancelled License No. MNB/15/901, MB/15/902, and has thus cancelled/withdrawn all the product permissions granted to the parent firm M/s Smilax Healthcare Drug. Co to manufacture the drug formulations containing narcotic substance. The gravity of the offences committed and admitted by the notice-licensee apart, it is evident that the licenses/permission granted, under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Drug Rules, 1945, to the noticee-licensee to produce drugs containing any active pharmaceutical ingredient, which has a dual presence in Narcotics Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act, has been revoked by the competent authority in respect of both (the parent and loanee) firms. Therefore, for the below given provisions under Rule 50 (1) and 54 of the HPNDPS Rules, the license granted in Form MD-VI to the noticee-License has become liable to be deemed revoked (cancelled) w.e.f. 16-05-2024 (the date of cancellation of licenses under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Drug Rules, 1945):

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"50(1) The Excise Commissioner or any other officer specifically empowered by him in this behalf, may on the recommendation of the <u>State Drug Controller</u>, Himachal Pradesh; grant a Chemist's license in Form MD-VI, to any person, on payment of a fee of rupees one lakh fifty thousand and subject to the conditions specified in sub-rule (2) of this rule:

Provided that no license in form MD-VI shall be granted to a person who does not hold the requisite license under the Drugs Rules, 1945, made under the Drugs Act, 1940, (XXIII of 1940):"

"54. Revocation or suspension of licence or permit.-(1) Any license or permit granted under these rules may be revoked or suspended by the licensing authority if the holder or any person employed by him is found to have committed a breach of the conditions thereof or any of the provisions of these rules, or has been convicted of an offence under theAct or any offence under the Indian Penal Code:"

It is clear that as on this date (03-07-2024), the noticee, despite having given time to show the same, is not having the necessary license/recommendations under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Drug Rules, 1945) issued by the State Drug Controller of Himachal Pradesh. The noticee has also failed to show documents regarding revocation of licenses cancelled, in respect of both of the above mentioned firms. Therefore, in view of the provisions of Rule 50 of the HPNDPS Rules, 1989 (read with section 10 of the NDPS Act, 1985) for non-fulfilment of conditions above, the license of the noticee firm above granted in Form MD-VI cannot survive and the same stands deemed revoked (cancelled) w.e.f. 16-05-2024, the date of withdrawal of permission to the licensee firms to manufacture drug formulations containing any active pharmaceutical ingredient which has a dual presence in Narcotics Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act as well as in the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules 1945. Hence, the license in Form MD-VI is, hereby, cancelled accordingly.

10. In view of order passed above, the competent authority i.e. Deputy

Excise and Taxation Commissioner {Now Addl. Commissioner State -

Taxes & Excise (South Zone)} is directed to take further necessary action in the matter as per relevant provisions of the Himachal Pradesh Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Rules, 1989 with special reference to Rule 50 (2) (xiv) of the Rules ibid.

11. Inform all the concerned and file after completion be consigned to records. Record requisitioned from other authorities be returned.

Excise Commissioner, Himachal Pradesh

Endst. No. -EXN/CoST&E- EC (NDPS)/Reader/2024/17153-58 Shimla 171009

Dated: 03-07-2024

### Copy for information to:

- M/s Biogenetic Drug Private Limited, C/o Smilax Healthcare Drugs Co. Plot No. 23, EPIP-Village Jharmajri, Tehsil Baddi, District Solan (HP) (MD-VI, Licensee, Year 2024-25) for information and compliance of orders above.
- The State Drugs Controller, Controlling-cum-Licensing Authority, Himachal Pradesh, Baddi, District Solan (HP).
- Addl. Commissioner ST&E(D), HQ for necessary action.
- The Collector-cum-Addl. Commissioner (ST&E), South Zone, Shimla-05, for information and further necessary action.
- Dy. Commissioner State Taxes & Excise RD BBN for information and further necessary action.

6. Legal Cell, HQ, Shimla-09.

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