



## **BORDER SECURITY FORCE**

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

## **INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING ON 26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2016**

On 26<sup>th</sup> June, the World commemorates the international day against the drug abuse and illicit trafficking. This day is a reminder of the need to combat the problems illicit drug pose to the society. The menace hits at the very roots of the society and becomes a major impediment eroding governance and social institutions along with causing serious physical and psychological problems to the users.

The Border Security Force has always been aware of its social responsibility and has played an active role in contributing to the National causes. Understanding the common concern that illicit drug abuse is under cutting traditional values and threatening the existence of stable families and communities, BSF Family Welfare Association has come forward for the first time and are organizing a massive cycling rally all along the borders guarded by the BSF to spread awareness against abuse of drugs.

The BSF family members have joined hands with BSF personnel and a 15 lack strong entity has now taken it upon themselves to be the torch bearers for a campaign against abuse of drugs with a slogan 'BSF fought drugs free India'.

On 26<sup>th</sup> June 2016, more than 20000 BSF cyclists and their near and dear once are covering around 50000 Kms on the borders spreading this noble message.

The lead programme for this massive awareness campaign has been conducted at Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium New Delhi. Smt. Renu Sharma wife of DG BSF Sh K K Sharma and President of the 'BSF Family Welfare Association' flagged off 500 cyclists at 07:30 am. The rally covered a distance of 20 Kms and spread the message BSF for a Drug Free India in the lanes and by-lanes of Delhi. North Delhi cyclist group also joined this rally with BSF for spreading the message.

Meanwhile at the flag off venue, The Nukkad Natak group "Asmita" gave a poignant performance on evil of drug abuse and moved the audience present. Another high point of awareness campaign was the flagging in of the rally by Padma Shri Sushil Kumar, the Olympian wrestler. Shri Sushil Kumar appreciated this gesture of BSF for awareness against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. He said that BSF men are doing a herculean task of guarding our border and providing us a peaceful life. Their sacrifices for the cause can only be supplemented by our social uprising against these social evils of Drug Abuse. We have to come forward for the course.

The Border Security Force not only stands guards at the borders to stop intrusions aimed at hitting on the sovereignty and integrity of the country but also is extremely sensitive to the social evils like drugs that might creep in through the borders. In the last 05 years, BSF has apprehended 1480.50 Kg heroin, 18.426 Kg Opium, 23.075 Kg Brown Sugar, 12.56 Kg Cocaine, 53534.629 Kg Ganja and 756.674 Poppy-husks. Besides, BSF has undertaken extensive campaign to destroy poppy and cannabis cultivation along the borders. In the last one year BSF has destroyed almost 12000 acres of poppy cultivation in Malda area of west Bengal and about 17 Lacks matured plants of cannabis cultivation in Tripura.

BSF stands firm in its commitment to the National efforts for social causes and especially in anti-narcotics campaign. This, for the BSF is not a one day campaign but a continuous endeavor and contribution towards a safe and sustainable future of the mother land.



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