

One killed as troops intercept illicit drugs worth over N6.5m

●As NDLEA arrests 149 suspects in Sokoto

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JOS — ONE person was killed and illicit drugs estimated at N6.5 million seized as troops of Operation SAFE HAVEN, OpSH, intercepted a drug syndicate along Akwanga-Gwantu Road in Sanga LGA of Kaduna State.

In a statement, yesterday, in Jos, Plateau State, Information Officer of OpSH, Major Ishaku Takwa said: "Troops of Operation SAFE HAVEN busted another drug syndicate and recovered 315 blocks of substances suspected to be cannabis estimated at about N6.5 million. The troops also recovered 1,610 Pregabalin capsule IP 300mg (NERVIGESIC) capsules suspected to be illicit drugs without NAFDAC registration number.

"The substances and Pregabalin capsules were neatly concealed in

a Toyota Avensis saloon car with number plate, AAA 348 BT, and Ford Edge bus with number plate, ABC 318 LU, respectively. The driver of the Toyota Avensis refused to stop for search at Operation SAFE HAVEN check point along Akwanga-Gwantu Road in Sanga LGA of Kaduna State.

"On pursuit, troops shot at the vehicle. One of the suspects lost his life as a result of gunshot wounds, while the other occupants escaped into the bush. The deceased was later identified as Danjuma Salisu.

Items recovered from the car include 314 parcels of substances suspected to be cannabis sativa, two fake military and Department of State Services ID cards bearing the deceased name, Motorola radio and N10,000 only were recovered. The relatives of the deceased have been identified and his remains have been recovered through court process for burial.

NDLEA arrests 149

suspects

Meanwhile, the Sokoto State Command of National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency, NDLEA, has arrested 149 suspects and seized 1,993.068kg of hard drugs from January to December 2021.

The state commandant of the NDLEA, Abdul Abdullahi, stated this while highlighting the activities of the command in 2021.

He said of the 149 suspects, 144 were males while five were females.

According to him, the command seized different types of illicit drugs that include 1,487 kg of Cannabis Sativa, 403,634kg of Psychotropic substance, 1,550 grams of heroine and 19 grams of Amphetamine respectively.

The command stated among others, that in the month of December at Bafarawa Estate Sokoto in a single operation seized 975kg of Cannabis Sativa in which investigation was ongoing.