





## GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA DRUGS CONTROL ADMINISTRATION- PROHIBITION & EXCISE

### **Press Release**

Manufacturing Units of illicit drugs 3-MMC and Alpha-PiHP busted. Stocks worth Rs. 2.33 Crores seized.

Following a major bust of an illicit drug manufacturing unit, other manufacturing sites of the drugs of abuse '3-MMC' and 'Alpha-PiHP' were busted in raids carried out as part of a joint operation by the Drugs Control Administration and the Prohibition & Excise Department.

In a significant development in the ongoing battle against illicit drug manufacturing, the <u>joint operation</u> carried out by Drugs Control Administration, Telangana along with Prohibition & Excise Department and successfully busted illegal manufacturing of the Psychotropic Substances 'Alpha-PiHP' at Medchem Labs, IDA Bollaram, Sangareddy District and '3-Methylmethcathinone (3-MMC)' at Vanamali Organics Pvt Ltd., IDA Mankhal, Ranga Reddy District.

During the joint operation, officials seized the stock of Alpha-PiHP of quantity 2.850 Kgs of worth Rs. 1.19 Crores during the raid at Medchem Labs and stock of 3-MMC of quantity 11.5 Kgs of worth Rs. 1.14 Crores during the raid at Vanamali Organics Pvt. Ltd. Stocks of total worth Rs. 2.33 Crores were seized during the joint operation.

'Alpha-PiHP' and '3-MMC' are drugs of abuse which are circulating on the drug market and are illegally used as psychostimulant drugs.

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#### The details are as follows:

As part of the joint operation carried out by Drugs Control Administration, Government of Telangana along with Prohibition and Excise Department, Government of Telangana, regarding manufacturing of illicit drugs, the special teams conducted surprise raids at Medchem Labs, located at IDA Bollaram, Bollaram Village, Jinnaram Mandal, Sangareddy District, Telangana State, India and at Vanamali Organics Pvt Ltd. located at IDA Mankhal, Maheshwaram Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana State, India.

During the raids carried out on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2024, officials detected manufacturing of illicit drugs at the two sites under certain code names.

#### Raid at Medchem Labs, IDA Bollaram, Sangareddy District:

The stocks of material with code name 'PIH' detected at Medchem Labs which was found to be an illicit drug Alpha-PiHP (or) 4-methyl-1-phenyl-2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pentan-1-one which is listed under Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (NDPS Act) as a 'Psychotropic Substance' and its manufacturing and sale is prohibited under NDPS Act.

Officers detected stocks of quantity 2.850 Kgs of Alpha-PiHP at Medchem Labs, located in IDA Bollaram.

Officials detected that **Medchem Labs** also exported the drug of abuse Alpha-PiHP to Netherlands.

Medchem Labs has been manufacturing designer drugs such as Alpha-PiHP (Alpha-Pyrrolidinoisohexanophenone), which is a positional isomer of illicit drug Pyrovalerone, and 2-Methylmethcathinone (2-MMC), which is a structural isomers of illicit drug Mephedrone 4-Methylmethcathinone (4-MMC), that have been designed to mimic the effects of the illicit drugs Pyrovalerone and Mephedrone, with an intention to avoid classification as illegal (to circumvent drug abuse laws) and/or detection in standard drug tests. However Alpha-PiHP is recently classified as a Psychotropic Substance under NDPS Act.

Alpha-PiHP is a psychostimulant drug of cathinone class that has been sold online as a designer drug. The maximal stimulant effects were comparable to those found with Cocaine and Methamphetamine. As per the reports, Alpha -PiHP has been available on the drug market in Europe since at least 2016 and is administered by oral, intravenous or rectal routes, by nasal insufflation or by inhalation (vaping), inhalation after heating of foil has also been described. It is prohibited under NDPS Act in India by classifying it as a 'Psychotropic Substance'.

Officers from Drugs Control Administration viz. Assistant Director Sri. P. Ramu and Drugs Inspector Sri. Ch. Karthik Siva Chaitanya &

Officers from Prohibition and Excise Department viz. Sri. A. Anil Kumar Reddy, Assistant Commissioner, Enforcement, Hyderabad, Sri. S. Chandrasekhar Goud, Excise Inspector, Enforcement, Hyderabad and Sri. N. Sreenivasulu, Excise Sub-inspector, Enforcement, Hyderabad and their staff are among the officers who carried out the raid.

Prohibition and Excise officials seized the stock of **Alpha-PiHP** of quantity 2.850 Kgs of worth **Rs. 1.19 Crores** during the raid at Medchem Labs.

Prohibition and Excise Department officers arrested Peddolla Sreenivas, Managing Partner of Medchem Labs.

A case has been registered in Patancheru Excise Station vide COR No. 39/2024 dated: 22-03-2024 under Section 8(c) r/w 22(c) of NDPS Act.

# Raid at Vanamali Organics Pvt Ltd., IDA Mankhal, Ranga Reddy District:

The stocks of material with code name 'VOL007' detected at Vanamali Organics Pvt Ltd. which was found to be an illicit drug 3-Methylmethcathinone (3-MMC) (or) 2-(methylamino)-1-m-tolylpropan-1-one hydrochloride which is listed under Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (NDPS Act) as a 'Psychotropic Substance' and its manufacturing and sale is prohibited under NDPS Act.

Officers detected stocks of quantity 11.5 Kgs of 3-MMC at Vanamali Organics Pvt Ltd., located in IDA Mankhal.

Officials detected that **Vanamali Organics Pvt Ltd**., also exported the drug of abuse, 3-Methylmethcathinone (3-MMC), to various countries, primarily to Netherlands.

Vanamali Organics Pvt Ltd. has been manufacturing designer drugs such as 3-Methylmethcathinone (3-MMC) and 2-Methylmethcathinone (2-MMC), which are structural isomers of Mephedrone 4-Methylmethcathinone (4-MMC), that have been designed to mimic the effects of the drug Mephedrone, with an intention to avoid classification as illegal (to circumvent drug abuse

laws) and/or detection in standard drug tests. However the substance **3-Methylmethcathinone** (3-MMC) is recently classified as a Psychotropic Substance under NDPS Act.

**3-MMC** is a strong stimulant recreational drug. There are reports that 3-MMC has stronger amphetamine-like stimulant properties compared to Mephedrone and mostly sold on the internet. 3-MMC which is closely related in structure to the illicit drug mephedrone (4-MMC), was first identified being sold in Sweden in 2012 and is also illegal in most countries that have banned Mephedrone, including India. However, 3-MMC is illegally traded on the recreational drug market as an alternative to Mephedrone. There were reports that it was being imported into Europe in bulk quantities, mainly from India. Hence it is prohibited under NDPS Act in India by classifying it as a 'Psychotropic Substance'.

Officers from Drugs Control Administration viz. Assistant Director Sri. P. Ramu, Drugs Inspectors Dr. B. Lakshminarayana, Sri. G. Anil, Sri. Ch. Karthik Siva Chaitanya, Sri. T. Shiva Teja &

Officers from Prohibition and Excise Department viz. Sri. Tula Srinivas Rao, DSP Special Task Force, Sri. K. Venkateshwarlu, Inspector of Police STF, Sri. R. Thirupathi Reddy, SHO Prohibition and Excise, Maheshwaram and their staff are among the officers who carried out the raid.

Prohibition and Excise officials seized the stock of 3-MMC of quantity 11.5 Kgs of worth **Rs. 1.14 Crores** during the raid at Vanamali Organics Pvt. Ltd.

Prohibition and Excise Department officers arrested K.V. Rajagopal, Production Manager of Vanamali Organics Pvt. Ltd.

A case has been registered in Maheshwaram Excise Station vide COR No.

13/2024 dated: 22-03-2024 under Section 8(c) r/w 22(c) of NDPS Act.

The abuse of illicit drugs poses significant health risks, impacting

individuals physically, mentally, and emotionally. Addiction is a prevalent

consequence, characterized by a compulsive need to seek and use drugs

despite adverse effects.

Overdose, a potentially fatal outcome, occurs when the body is

overwhelmed by the quantity of drugs consumed, leading to life-threatening

consequences.

Illicit drug abuse and dependence wreak havoc on physical and mental

health. Drug abuse leads to serious health risks, including addiction,

overdose, and various complications such as cardiovascular problems,

respiratory issues, mental health disorders, liver and kidney damage,

neurological impairments, and an increased risk of overdose and death.

Mental health deteriorates with heightened risk of depression, anxiety,

psychosis, and cognitive deficits, diminishing overall well-being and quality of

life.

Date: 23-03-2024

V.B. KAMALASAN REDDY, IPS

**DIRECTOR GENERAL, DRUGS CONTROL ADMINISTRATION** 

**DIRECTOR, PROHIBITION AND EXCISE** 

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<u>Photograph – Seizure conducted at Medchem Labs, IDA Bollaram</u>



<u>Photograph – Seizure conducted at Vanamali Organics Pvt. Ltd, IDA Mankhal</u>



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