



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

Press Release

3-MMC, a drug of abuse : Manufacturing site busted in a joint operation carried out by Drugs Control Administration and Prohibition & Excise Department. Stocks worth **Rs. 8.99 Crores seized during joint operation.**

In a major breakthrough, Drugs Control Administration, Telangana carried out a joint operation along with Prohibition & Excise Department on the basis of an alert from INTERPOL and successfully busted illegal manufacturing of the Psychotropic Substance '3-Methylmethcathinone (3-MMC)' at PSN Medicare Private Ltd. in IDA Bollaram, Sangareddy District.

'3-Methylmethcathinone' which is also known as '3-MMC' or 'Metaphedrone' is a **drug of abuse** which is circulating on the market and is used recreationally by drug addicts.

Kasthur Reddy Nemallapudi Director of **PSN Medicare Private Ltd.** located in IDA Bollaram manufactured the drug of abuse '3-MMC' and also exported huge quantities to Europe.

During the joint operation, officials seized the stock of quantity 90.48 Kgs of worth **Rs. 8.99 Crores.**

The details are as follows:

Drugs Control Administration, Government of Telangana, on the basis of alert received from INTERPOL, regarding manufacturing of illicit drugs and export of drugs of abuse to several European nations, conducted a joint operation along with Prohibition and Excise Department, Government of Telangana on 21st and 22nd March, 2024.

The special teams conducted a surprise raid at PSN Medicare Private Ltd., located at Sy. No. 296/7/11, IDA Bollaram, Jinnaram Mandal, Sangareddy District, Telangana State, which is a chemical factory operated by Kasthur Reddy Nemallapudi, Director of the company.

During the raids, officials detected manufacturing of illicit drugs at the site under certain code names. The stocks of material with code name 'YLV01' detected at the site. The said material 'YLV01' was manufactured at the site without any batch manufacturing records or production logs.

Officers detected stocks of quantity 90.48 Kgs of YLV01 powder in the manufacturing site.

On verification of the orders received by Kasthur Reddy Nemallapudi from several foreign nations and the sale transactions carried out by him, it has been found that the material manufactured under code name 'YLV01' is chemically "2-(methylamino)-1-(3- methylphenyl)propan-1-one".

The chemical name 2-(methylamino)-1-(3- methylphenyl)propan-1-one pertains to an illicit drug **3-Methylmethcathinone**, popularly known as **3-MMC** 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.

Kasthur Reddy Nemallapudi has been manufacturing and supplying the illicit drug **3-Methylmethcathinone** (3-MMC) under the chemical name **2-(methylamino)-1-(3-methylphenyl)propan-1-one**.

Officials detected that Kasthur Reddy Nemallapudi also exported **3-Methylmethcathinone** (3-MMC) to European nations.

Kasthur Reddy Nemallapudi 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 **3-Methylmethcathinone** (3-MMC) is recently classified as a Psychotropic Substance under NDPS Act.

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'.

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 as a "research chemical". This

novel designer drug is usually found in the form of white powder or crystals. The most frequently used routes of administration of 3-MMC are insufflation (snorting) and through oral route, either as capsules or powder wrapped in cigarette paper (referred to as “bombing”). Inhalation and intravenous injection are also used.

Officers from Drugs Control Administration viz. Assistant Director Sri. P. Ramu and Drugs Inspectors Sri. B. Lakshminarayana, Sri. M. Chandrasekhar, Sri. G. Anil, Sri. Ch. Karthik Siva Chaitanya &

Officers from Prohibition and Excise Department viz. Assistant Excise Superintendent Sri. J. Jeevan Kiran and Excise Inspectors Sri. A. Subhash Chander Rao and A. Balaraju and their staff are among the officers who carried out the raid.

Prohibition and Excise officials seized the stock of 3-MMC of quantity 90.48 Kgs of worth **Rs. 8.99 Crores** during the raid.

Prohibition and Excise Department officers **arrested** Kasthur Reddy Nemallapudi, Director, K. Sudhakar Reddy, Production Manager and G. Venkateswarlu, Quality Control Incharge for illicit drug manufacturing.

A case has been registered in Patancheru Excise Station vide COR No. 35/2024 dated: 21-03-2024 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.

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V.B. KAMALASAN REDDY, IPS

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Photographs


