

## **PRESS NOTE**

**Subject: DRI busts illicit manufacturing of Party Drug - Meow Meow (Mephedrone) by a Chemical Firm in Ankleshwar; owner of the firm arrested and drugs worth more than Rs. 2 crores seized .**

An intelligence was developed by the Directorate of Revenue intelligence, Zonal Unit, Ahmedabad that a chemical firm based at Ankleshwar was indulged in illicit manufacturing and trafficking of Mephedrone popularly known as Meow Meow, a Psychotropic Substance covered under NDPS Act, 1985. Acting upon the said intelligence officers of DRI Surat and DRI, Vapi raided the said firm and residential premises of the owner of the said firm. In the raid at factory premises 2.019 kg Mephedrone in powder/crystal form and 8.330 kg Mephedrone in liquid form was recovered and seized under NDPS Act. Besides, 80.130 kg Propenyl Chloride and 83 kg Toulene used for manufacturing of Mephedrone was also recovered and seized under NDPS Act. Total illicit market value of seized drugs is more than Rs. 2 crores. The owner of the said Firm was also apprehended from his residence. In his statement he accepted illicit manufacturing and trafficking of Mephedrone. He has done PhD (Doctor of Philosophy) in organic chemistry and under the garb of manufacturing chemical he has been manufacturing drugs. The popularity of synthetic or party drugs like Meow Meow or Mephedrone has increased manifold over the last few years in India. Liquid mephedrone is soluble in water and can be taken orally or injected. The effects of the drug are similar to methamphetamine and cocaine. But its potency is less and demand is very high among revellers and drugs addicts. This is the third case of busting of illicit manufacturing of banned psychotropic substance in last three months by DRI, Surat and DRI, Vapi. In the month of May, DRI Vapi in a joint operation with DRI, Mumbai busted a Pharmaceutical Firm based at Palghar, Maharashtra involved in illicit manufacturing of Tramadol, a psychotropic substance under NDPS Act. Likewise DRI, Surat and DRI, Vapi in a joint operation busted a Pharmaceutical Firm based at Valsad, Gujarat involved in illicit manufacturing of Tramadol, a psychotropic substance under NDPS Act. In both these operations Tramadol worth more than Rs. 100 crores was seized and five persons were arrested.

