

DRI busts factory manufacturing illicit psychotropic substances; seizes drugs worth Rs 245 crore

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Continuing its crackdown on drug syndicates involved in the manufacture, sale and distribution of drugs in the country, the **Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI)** officers busted a clandestine factory in Yamunanagar, Haryana, that was involved in the illicit manufacture of **Ephedrine**, a **controlled substance** listed under **Schedule A** of the **Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Regulation of Controlled Substances) Order, 2013**. Ephedrine is used in the manufacture of Methamphetamine - a party drug, more commonly known as ice, crystal meth, speed etc. The said operation led to seizure of 661 kg of Ephedrine and 5,200 kg of raw materials valued at **Rs. 133 crore** in the international illicit market.

Specific intelligence was developed by DRI that illicit manufacture of chemical drugs was taking place at a clandestine factory in the rural areas adjoining Yamnunanagar, Haryana. During the searches carried out at the factory premises over a period of two days, starting 29th July 2022, a large consignment of **Ephedrine weighting 661 kg was recovered along with over 5,200 kg of raw material**, which was to be used for the manufacture of ephedrine. Equipment like centrifuges and glass line reactors, which were being used to manufacture the chemical drugs were also recovered. Two persons, including one of the financiers, have been arrested in this case and further investigations are underway.

In another case, DRI officers intercepted a person at Bengaluru Railway Station, search of whose bag led to the recovery of **16 kg heroin** valued at **Rs. 112 crore** in the international illicit market, which was ingeniously concealed in the false cavity of the trolley bag. This person had arrived in Bengaluru by the morning flight from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and was on his way to New Delhi, when he was intercepted. The said person has been arrested and further investigations are underway.

Busting of a factory manufacturing illicit drugs deals a body-blow to the drug syndicates engaged in manufacturing, sale and distribution of such drugs, which have the potential to harm India's youth. DRI is committed to making utmost efforts to protect India from the menace of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances that have wide ranging socio-economic implications. In the financial year 2021-22, through its operations conducted across the length and breadth of India, DRI seized **3,463 kg of heroin**, **208 kg of pseudoephedrine** and **321 kg of cocaine**, together valued at almost **Rs 19,800 crore** in the international illicit market.

RM/MV/KMN

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