

DRI raids illegal Alprazolam factory in Andhra Pradesh under Operation “White Hammer”; 237 kg drugs worth ₹47 crore and over 3.5 tonnes of chemicals seized; two arrested

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In a significant crackdown on the illicit manufacture of synthetic drugs, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) has busted a clandestine facility engaged in the production of **Alprazolam**, a psychotropic substance under the NDPS Act, 1985, in Kondapalli Industrial Development Area, District NTR, Andhra Pradesh.

The intelligence-driven and well-coordinated operation codenamed “**Operation White Hammer**”, was carried out on 11th and 12th March 2026, and revealed a full-fledged industrial setup for production of Alprazolam, operating under the guise of a chemical manufacturing unit.





Searches at the premises resulted in the seizure of **237 kg Alprazolam** with an estimated market value of Rs. 47 crore, along with over 800 kg key raw materials, 2,860 litres of various chemicals, and industrial-scale equipment such as reactors, driers and a centrifuge, demonstrating an organised, large-scale clandestine manufacturing facility.



Preliminary investigation revealed the operation was orchestrated by a chemist with over 20 years' experience in chemical and pharmaceutical sector, in collusion with his associate who arranged raw materials and distribution in Hyderabad. The accused had rented the factory premises for clandestinely manufacturing Alprazolam. Both masterminds have been arrested.



During the current financial year, DRI has dismantled **eight clandestine drug manufacturing units** through intelligence-based operations, reaffirming its firm commitment to the Government's *Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan* and to safeguarding society and people from the menace of narcotic and psychotropic substances.

NB/KMN

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