

### <u>Nabbed Two Inter State Traffickers – Seized (500) Grams of ALPRAZOLAM by</u> <u>Wanaparthy Police and RNCCs Nizamabad & Mahabubnagar of Telangana Anti-</u> <u>Narcotics Bureau (TGANB).</u>

On 05.06.2025, Wanaparthy Police and RNCCs Nizamabad & Mahabubnagar of Telangana Anti-Narcotics Bureau (TGANB) have successfully apprehended two accused involved in the illegal trade of **Alprazolam (500 grams)**, a banned substance. The accused, identified as **Narsimhulu Goud** and **Bhaskar Goud**, were caught red-handed during a transaction of at the **Agriculture Market Yard**, **Pebbair** and registered a case in Cr.No.127/2025 U/s 8(c) r/w 22(c) 29 NDPS Act of Pebbair Police Station.

During interrogation, **Narsimhulu Goud** confessed to running this illegal business for the past 5 years, illicitly transporting and selling Alprazolam in **Gadwal**, **Pebbair and Kurnool areas**. He procured the substance from individuals in **Kurnool**, including **Ediga Gopal Goud**, **Ediga Jagadish Goud**, and **Harshawardhan Goud**, at a rate of ₹2,80,000 per kg, selling it to buyers for ₹4,00,000 per kg.

Investigations revealed that **Bhaskar Goud**, a resident of **Bingidoddi Vig**, Leeza Mandal had been purchasing Alprazolam from Narsimhulu Goud for toddy shop personnel. Upon arriving at **Pebbair town** to complete another purchase, he was apprehended alongside Narsimhulu Goud in a sting operation conducted by the Wanaparthy Police and RNCCs Nizamabad & Mahabubnagar of Telangana Anti-Narcotics Bureau (TGANB).

Upon searching their possessions, law enforcement found **transparent packets containing light yellow powder**, which was later confirmed by forensic experts as **banned Alprazolam**. Both accused individuals were taken into custody, and further legal proceedings are underway.

# Accused arrested:

- A1: Bhaskar Goud, S/o Sourana Goud (42), R/o Thummalapalli Village, Gattu Mandal, Gadwal.
- A2: Ediga Narasimha Goud, S/o Narayan Goud (31), R/o Bingidoddi Village, leeja Mandal, Gadwal.

The duo was caught while attempting to transport **500 grams of Alprazolam**, far exceeding the **commercial quantity threshold of 100 grams** under the NDPS Act. A2 confessed that the banned substance was supplied by a suspect Ramakrishna from Kurnool (AP), through unknown couriers.

# Accused absconding:

- Ramakrishna r/o Madakashara of Ananthapur District.
- Ediga Jagadish r/o Santhoshnagar, Kurnool Town.
- Ediga Gopal r/o Venkataramana Colony, Kurnool Town.
- Harshavardhan Goud r/o Ananthapur District.

# Use of Alprazolam in Adulterated Toddy – Threat to Rural Health Background: <u>Poison in the Palm Wine</u>

On 08.04.2025 and 09.04.2025, over **95 persons** from **Nasrullabad and Gandhari Mandals of Kamareddy District** were hospitalized after consuming toddy adulterated with benzodiazepines, particularly *Alprazolam* and *Diazepam*. The blood and urine samples of the victims tested positive for benzodiazepines—a class of Schedule H narcotic psychotropic drugs under the NDPS Act. Intelligence and chemical analysis reports have also **confirmed that Alprazolam is being misused by toddy compounders to spike toddy** and give it a stronger, addictive "kick". This illegal practice has led to:

- Multiple health complications in consumers, including memory loss, drowsiness, and dependency.
- Congenital defects in children born to chronic toddy consumers including underdeveloped organs, microcephaly, and premature mortality.
- Outbreaks of acute intoxication and hospitalization in districts like Kamareddy, Nizamabad, and Medak.

This dangerous trend represents not just drug abuse but a public health hazard affecting entire families in rural areas.

# Interstate Network Traced to Illegal Pharma Units in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh & Maharashtra

TG ANB has established that Alprazolam is being manufactured illegally in pharma units operating out of Telangana & Andhra Pradesh. Further backward linkage in a separate operation traced supply to **Umarga and Kharad (Maharashtra)** where **338 kg of stage-4 chemical precursors and 100 kg of Alprazolam** were seized. The key accused, **Amar Singh Deshmukh**, a PhD in Chemistry, was operating clandestine labs that catered to:

- Drug traffickers targeting Hyderabad and Telangana towns.
- Toddy compounders looking to "enhance" local liquor in villages.

These rackets have national-level tentacles, and TG ANB is actively coordinating with **Maharashtra**, **Karnataka**, **and Andhra Pradesh Police**.

#### TG ANB Response & Awareness Campaigns :

In Kamareddy : 2 cases were booked vide Cr.Nos.39/2025 & Cr.No.68/2025, 4 arrested and 1.087 kg Alprazolam seized (tested BZO Positivve)

In Zaheerabad : one case booked vide Cr.No.147/2025, 770 gms Alprazolam seized worth ₹7.5 lakh cash and Hyundai Creta seized. Origin traced to clandestine lab in Ahilya Nagar, Maharashtra.

In Bodhan : one case booked vide Cr.No.148/2025, one arrested, 2.5 kg Alprazolam worth ₹2.5 lakh cash, Skoda car and 8 mobile phones were seized.

Follow-up: On 27.05.2025, 30 kg Alprazolam, ₹12 lakh cash, Ford car, and Surya Prabha Pharma Chem factory (MIDC, Satara) seized from accused

In Srirampur Case (Cr.No.499/2025, Maharashtra): Based on TGANB intel,

69.76 kg Alprazolam and 338 kg raw materials seized from a clandestine lab

- > Crackdown on inter-state psychotropic drug rackets.
- > Mapping supply chains to **illegal toddy manufacturers**.
- > Conducting **joint raids** with excise, DCA, and local police.

#### Awareness & Community Engagement

- Special anti-toddy adulteration awareness drives in 104 villages of Nizamabad, involving 26 field teams.
- Campaigns extended to schools, colleges, SHGs, toddy tappers' colonies, and rural health workers.
- Encouraging local youth and citizens to report anonymously via the Anti-Narcotics Helpline – 1908.
- Use of local media, folk art, and mobile vans for education on **dangers of drug-laced toddy**.
- Public Health Alert

Alprazolam-adulterated toddy is not only illegal but highly carcinogenic and teratogenic. Cases of **microcephaly**, **developmental delays**, **infertility**, **and seizures** are emerging among long-term consumers. Public consumption of such toddy poses generational damage to health.

## > Appeal to the General Public

**TGANB calls upon all citizens to**: Stay alert, report any suspicious toddy or narcotic activity, avoid consumption of illegal substances and educate youth against psychotropic abuse.

Report to: & 1908 (Toll-Free Helpline) and tsnabho-hyd@tspolice.gov.in

All information will be kept confidential and credible informants will be suitably rewarded.

### Together for a Drug-Free Telangana:

Let us rise against this silent killer. TGANB reaffirms its commitment to ensuring the safety, health, and dignity of every citizen.

### "Say NO to Adulterated Toddy. Say YES to Life."

Director Telangana Anti-Narcotics Bureau (TGANB)

#### PRESS NOTE

Tree Relocation Initiative on World Environment Day – A Step Towards Sustainable Urban Traffic Management

Date: 05-06-2025:

In observance of World Environment Day, Sri G. Shankar Raju, ACP Traffic North Zone, along with Sri P. Mahesh, RSI of Traffic Police Station Mahankali, and in collaboration with local social activists, undertook a significant green initiative by relocating a peltophorum tree that was causing major traffic congestion near Manju Theatre Lane, under the jurisdiction of Traffic PS Mahankali.

The tree's location and its overgrown branches had been impeding smooth vehicular movement and posed a risk to commuters. After obtaining due permissions from the concerned authorities, the tree was carefully and successfully relocated to the premises of Mehaboob College, Secunderabad. The relocation effort was carried out with a commitment to preserving green heritage and ensuring the safety of commuters.

This action has notably eased the traffic congestion in the area, particularly improving the flow of traffic from Taj Belson Lane and towards Paradise Junction.

Sri R.V. Karnan, IAS, Zonal Commissioner, GHMC, also took part in the initiative and visited the relocation site. He appreciated the efforts taken, where ACP Sri G. Shankar Raju and social activist Sri Jalandar Goud presented him with a mango sapling, symbolizing the importance of environmental stewardship.

Speaking on the occasion, ACP Sri G. Shankar Raju emphasized, "Environmental responsibility is not just about planting trees, but also about protecting and preserving them for the future."

Efforts will continue to monitor the tree's re-growth and ensure its healthy adaptation in its new environment, reflecting a broader commitment to sustainable urban living and green conservation.

Regards G. Shankar Raju, ACP, Traffic-I, North Zone.