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FDCA raids unit illegally making sanitizer, seizes items worth Rs 34 lakh in Ahmedabad

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Samples of the seized goods were sent for forensic analysis

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AHMEDABAD: A team of the Gujarat Food and Drugs
Control Administration (FDCA) carried out a raid in Makarba on Friday and seized material to make hand sanitizer from a residence. Officials said the accused, Meet Patel, was producing sanitizer without a permit. Officials are ascertaining how many units were produced and sold so far. From the spot, officials seized

items worth Rs 34.4 lakh.

"They had alcoholic hand rub/sanitizer of Mehsana-based Jyoti Herbs and Gandhinagar-based Prince Instant Hand Sanitizer along with other products, packaging material and machinery. Patel in primary questioning said he was making sanitizers since the lockdown and had so far purchased denatured alcohol worth Rs 18 lakh," said Dr H G Koshia, commissioner of the Gujarat FDCA. He added that Patel has violated The Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, by initiating production without a permit.

The FDCA investigation revealed that Jyoti Herbs doesn't have a permit for production of cosmetics or medicines whereas the products from Prince Instant Hand Sanitizer were found to be fake. Officials also also found tins of hair remover, the use of which is still under the scanner.

"We would be questioning Patel and others found to be involved to understand the supply chain and possible markets where the sanitizer was sent. Due to Covid-19, there is a manyfold increase in consumption of sanitizers and hand rubs and the accused probably sensed a business opportunity," said a senior FDCA official.

Source: https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ahmedabad/fdca-raids-unit-illegally-making-sanitizer-seizes-items-worth-rs-34l/articleshow/77552584.cms