Chinese and Korean manufactured smuggled cigarette seized in Patna

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PATNA: Acting on a specific intelligence input, a Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) team of Patna along with the Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel seized a consignment of foreign manufactured cigarette smuggled into India at Patliputra junction on Saturday.

The consignment was being smuggled to New Delhi from Guwahati inside the parcel van of North East Express which was intercepted as soon as the train reached the junction on Saturday morning. No one was arrested by DRI in connection with the smuggling.

DRI sources said that the smuggled consignment was worth at least Rs 65 lakh in the open market. They also said that the cigarettes were manufactured in China and South Korea.

"More than 2.87 lakh cigarette sticks manufactured in South Korea in 18 cartons were seized from the parcel van along with 59,800 sticks of another brand manufactured in China," sources said.

They also said that the consignment was booked by one Raghvendra Kumar Gupta of Paltan Bazaar in Guwahati on Friday. "One cellphone number along with name of Ram Kumar was written on the consignment which was to be delivered at Anand Vihar terminal in New Delhi," DRI sources said.

They said that the consignment was first legally imported in Myanmar after which it was smuggled into India from international border in Manipur and was brought to Guwahati.

"The import duty on cigarette in Myanmar is mere 6% of the price of the consignment while in India, import duty on cigarette is a whopping 64%. It is due to this reason that smugglers prefer importing foreign manufactured cigarette first to Myanmar and then smuggle into Indian border," DRI sources said. They said that the seized cigarettes are of lower quality than their Indian competitors but sell at reasonably good price in open market.

Source: *https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/patna/chinese-and-korean-manufactured-smuggled-cigarette-seized-in-patna/articleshow/62487561.cms*