

Four land in police net for selling imported cigarettes

Saturday, May 12, 2018 | By Suresh Golani

Smokers beware- don't be under the false impression that cigarette packets sans pictorial descriptions (in context to risks involved) are healthy. The police have arrested four vendors who were found to be selling smuggled cigarettes in violation of labeling rules. To curb the menace of imported cigarettes, the Mira-Bhayandar division of the Thane (rural) police has now trained their guns on local paan shops indulging in illegal sale.

After gathering information about the illegalities, a police team led by Assistant Superintendent of Police Atul Kulkarni swooped down on local paan shops in Mira Road and apprehended four people for violating the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA), 2003. The police also seized 377 packets of imported cigarettes worth Rs.1.52 lakh. While raids were conducted at paan shops including Rasoi, Sidra, Maa Shaarda and Om Sai, the apprehended accused were identified as Dinesh Chaurasiya, Ismail Khan, Harendra Naag and Kamlesh Yadav. The police is trying to ascertain the source of consignment.

Several paan shop owners in the region are openly selling smuggled cigarettes which are without the mandated warnings thus violating the law, evading taxes and spurring addiction.

Source: http://www.afternoonc.in/city-news/four-land-in-police-net-for-selling-imported-cigarettes/article_222834