

1.5kg of gold, 50 cartons of cigarettes seized

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kochi: In four separate seizures on Sunday, the air intelligence unit (AIU) of the Cochin customs seized 1.5kg of gold and 50 cartons of cigarettes valued at Rs 50 lakh.

In the first seizure, 923g of gold was seized from a passenger from Doha. The gold was in the form of crude gold and bangles.

The second seizure was from a passenger from Malaysia. As much as 208g of the

contraband was concealed in the rectum of the passenger.

In the third seizure, a pas-

senger from Dubai concealed the yellow metal in specially stitched pockets in his trou-



The four seizures on Sunday yielded contraband valued at Rs 50 lakh

sers. The AIU seized 50 cartons of cigarette in the fourth seizure at Cial.

Customs commissioner Sumit Kumar said seizures on Sunday alone yielded contraband valued at least Rs 50 lakh. "The customs have made 44 gold-related arrests till January 31 in this financial year. As many as 10 arrests were made for smuggling foreign currency and two for narcotics-related cases," the commissioner said.

Customs sleuths had on

Saturday seized 23 gold biscuits valued at Rs 95 lakh. The biscuits were found hidden in the transformer of a microwave oven. On Wednesday, they had foiled an attempt to smuggle out foreign currency through Cial. Foreign currency valued at Rs 25 lakh was seized on Wednesday.

Cochin customs has managed to generate revenue of Rs 23 crore by disposing off 77.5kg of gold in eight months since the beginning of the financial year.