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# Smuggling of cigarettes is on the rise

By **Mail Today Bureau**  
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**INDUSTRY** chamber FICCI on Monday said several cases of seizures by enforcement agencies of smuggled imported cigarettes reported in the last few months indicate a spike in cigarette smuggling during the coronavirus-induced lockdown.

FICCI's committee against smuggling and counterfeiting activities destroying the economy (CASCADE) said the seizure of foreign brand cigarettes worth Rs 11.88 crore from a container at Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) in Navi Mumbai on June 12, by the directorate of revenue intelligence is one of the biggest seizures since the lockdown.

The trend is nationwide, with seizures intercepted via road transport, in cargo and passenger luggage, FICCI CASCADE said in a statement.