

'Tobacco smuggling rose 8-fold during June-Oct 20'

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INDIA CONTINUES TO be a target for tobacco smugglers in spite of several restrictions with an almost eightfold increase in the illegal activity, according to industry chamber FICCI's Committee Against Smuggling and Counterfeiting Activities Destroying the Economy (CASCADE).

Enforcement agencies in India seized illicit cigarettes worth around ₹412 crore in the last five months across India, which is a quantum jump compared to ₹52 crore in June-October period of 2019, FICCI CASCADE said in a statement.

"This comes in the wake of several cases being intercepted during the COVID-19 pandemic," it added.