

DRI seizes cigarettes worth Rs 52 lakh

Dec 10, 2020

Jaipur: Four days after unearthing a smuggling racket and a tax evasion of customs duty of Rs 67 lakh through seizing foreign-made cigarettes and garments, the Jaipur unit of Department of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) on Wednesday seized 2.6 lakh sticks of foreign-made smuggled cigarettes worth Rs 52 lakh.

DRI sleuths stated that these cigarettes were smuggled into Jaipur through couriers. Following intense surveillance, the DRI on Sunday seized foreign made cigarettes worth Rs 67 lakh which were smuggled into Jaipur. Sleuths had also arrested two persons including Nitesh Jain and Ashish Gupta and had seized smuggled readymade garments worth Rs 10 lakh.

“During investigation, we got to know that cigarettes are also being smuggled into Jaipur through courier services. Some of the consignments were in transit and we were waiting for its arrival. Finally on Wednesday, our team managed to seize 2.6 lakh cigarettes worth Rs 52 lakh. So since Sunday we have seized foreign-made cigarettes worth Rs 1.19 crore,” said a senior officer of DRI on the condition of anonymity,

Sleuths stated that the recent seizures showed that use of foreign-made cigarettes was rampant in Jaipur. “It was found that the cigarettes arrived in Jaipur via Guwahati (Assam) and entered into India via Myanmar. Foreign-made cigarettes are not only popular among customers, but also give heavy margin of profit to the sellers including retailers. Many paan shops in Jaipur, too, keep these cigarettes and sell them to their trusted customers over the counters,” said a DRI official.

Authorities stated that they are working on some other clues and corroborating evidences to make further raids.

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/jaipur/dri-seizes-cigarettes-worth-rs-52-lakh/articleshow/79650647.cms>