

4.6 lakh cigarettes seized at Chennai port

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CHENNAI: Sleuths of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) have seized 4.6 lakh suspected fake cigarette sticks at Chennai port. These cigarettes were smuggled from Thailand and worth Rs 9.2 crore.

Based on specific information that fake cigarettes were being smuggled via sea from Thailand, DRI sleuths searched a container that reached Chennai port in a ship. The container had been declared to carry a tabletop fireplace. However, when DRI sleuths opened the container, they found foreign brand cigarettes concealed in it.



The cigarettes were sent to a laboratory for analysis as they could be fake ones, DRI sources said. Since there was no claimant for the consignment, DRI could not arrest anyone. Investigation was on to identify the smuggler, the sources said.

In December last, customs sleuths seized 20 lakh cigarette sticks worth Rs 3.5 crore at Chennai port which arrived here from Dubai. In August, the DRI seized one crore fake cigarette sticks worth Rs 15 crore smuggled from Thailand and Dubai in ships.

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/4-6-lakh-cigarettes-seized-at-chennai-port/articleshow/117890779.cms#:~:text=CHENNAI%3A%20Sleuths%20of%20the%20Directorate,an d%20worth%20Rs%209.2%20crore>