

3 HELD FOR CARRYING SMUGGLED CIGARETTES

DC CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU, SEPT. 18

Three people were arrested by the RMC Yard police for illegally transporting smuggled foreign cigarettes to Bengaluru from Chennai.

The police said the three men used to travel by KSRTC bus to ferry the contraband, which also allegedly included some packets of Indian cigarettes manufactured by ITC Company.

The arrested are Jayanti Lal (36), Satish (40) and Pasha (34). Police said the three were arrested from Yeshwanthpur while they were trying to drop the consignment to the agent in Bengaluru. All the seized cigarettes were original.

Inspector Mohammed

Mukarram told Deccan Chronicle that the gang was arrested on Monday. They were found in possession of two big boxes, which had contained 126 bundles of foreign cigarette packs worth Rs 5 lakh.

The cigarette packets did not have the mandatory statutory health warning and hence the sale is prohibited. Each pack contained 20 sticks and a total of 50,000 cigarettes have been confiscated.

The accused confessed that they had bought the consignment from their contact Mubarak from Tamil Nadu and brought it to the city to sell it to their customers. They were booked under various sections of Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA).