

Greater Kashmir

DFCO seizes tobacco products worth Rs 2 lakh

'Non branded cigarettes more hazardous'

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In a special drive started today, drug and food control department (DFCO) seized a stock of cigarettes that were in contravention to tobacco laws.

Officials said the seized stock was worth over Rs 2 lakh from shopkeepers here.

On Thursday, food safety officer Srinagar inspected various areas of Srinagar city and found some shopkeepers selling and supplying cigarettes without carrying mandatory health warning.



Representational Pic

“Huge stock cigarettes contravening section 7 of the Act was seized during two days of the drive. The value of the stock was put at Rs 220325. Till date prosecutions against 20 food business operators had been launched in this regard in the competent court,”

Sale and manufacture of tobacco products without pictorial health warning is punishable offence with an imprisonment up to six months.

DFCO has warned that food business operators to desist from such kind of malpractice. “Otherwise action as warranted under provisions of Cigarettes & other tobacco products Act will be taken.”

An official in the department said general public needs to understand that non branded cigarettes contain formaldehyde which immediately supplies nicotine to brain but is very harmful to health. “It (formaldehyde) is used to preserve dead bodies. It is a health hazard,” the official said.

Source: <http://www.greaterkashmir.com/news/srinagar-city/dfco-seizes-tobacco-products-worth-2-lakh/269719.html>