

Police seize foreign cigarettes worth Rs 13L

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Nashik: A large stock of foreign cigarettes have been confiscated by the city police from the Ambad and Bhadrakali areas.

Senior police officials had received a tip-off about illegal cigarettes that are not approved for sale flourishing in the city markets. Following this information, two teams were formed by the crime branch Unit 1 who conducted raids two places in the Bhadrakali area and one in the Ambad area, simultaneously.

During the raid, illegal cigarettes worth Rs 13.34 lakh were found from both the areas. As per the instruction of deputy commissioner of police (Crime) Vijay Magar, police inspector Narayan Nyahalde of Unit I formed two teams and conducted raids at Karishma Traders in Ashwin Nagar of Ambad where cigarettes worth Rs 2.77 lakh were confiscated. In the Bhadrakali area, the police raided Bombay Traders and A1 Supari from where cigarettes worth Rs 10.57 lakh were confiscated.

A senior police official said that offences will also be registered against the concerned **cigarette** sellers for violation of Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition Of Advertisement and Regulation Of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act. "It is mandatory for the companies to display pictorial warning on the cigarette packets as per the guidelines of the Union health ministry. However, these cigarette packets did not have any pictorial warning. Since they are not approved for sale in India, the sale was hampering the revenue of the Indian government."

The official added that they will be conducting more such raids in the future as such cigarettes are not for sale in the country and have a high percentage of nicotine which can lead to serious health hazards.

Source: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/nashik/police-seize-foreign-cigarettes-worth-rs-13/police-seize-foreign-cigarettes-worth-rs-13-lakh/articleshow/58779704.cms>