

## Fake cigarettes from Malaysia flood Kerala market; Rs 25000 worth cigarettes seized in Malappuram

These fake cigarettes reach Kerala through ship from Malaysia and Sri Lanka.



Nilambur: Fake cigarettes were seized from various shops in Nilambur during a raid conducted by the police the other day. A team led by Nilambur Circle Inspector Sunil Pullikal conducted raids in Nilambur town and Chandakunnu and seized fake cigarettes from 4 shops. Mathrubhumi had published a report the other day on the sale of fake cigarettes which are increasing alarmingly in Kerala and the huge revenue loss to the state. Sale of fake cigarettes without paying the tax incurs huge revenue loss to the state government. At the same time, use of these cigarettes will lead to serious health issues too

These fake cigarettes reach Kerala through ship from Malaysia and Sri Lanka. Tirur is the main point from where these cigarettes are distributed to different parts of the state.

The police seized fake cigarettes worth Rs 25,000 from shops in Nilambur Kodathipadi, Veetikuttu Road and from Chandakunnu. As many as 3000 cigarettes belonging to 15 brands were seized. The statutory warning that is inscribed on the covers of all cigarette brands are missing. The seized cigarettes also include beedi-like rolled cigarettes.

The CI said that manufacture date or year or the government approved statutory warning do not find place on the covers of these fake packets.

### **Low price, the major attraction**

Compared to the original cigarette, a low price is charged on the fake cigarette. It is the major attraction of this illegal product. It has great demand in the market as it contains huge quantity of nicotine compared to the original ones. Hence, people enjoy smoking these cigarettes as experiencing more intoxication at a low price.

These cigarettes are made with different flavours like cardamom, mint, clove and fruits. Mostly, the fake cigarettes are being sold through small shops. There are agents to supply these illegal products to shops. But, not more than 20 cigarettes will be supplied to any shopkeeper.

Source: <https://english.mathrubhumi.com/news/kerala/fake-cigarettes-from-malaysia-flood-kerala-market-rs-25000-worth-cigarettes-seized-in-malappuram-1.4477309>