

# 12 lakh smuggled cigarettes seized in Tamil Nadu

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*Representative image*

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Directorate of Revenue Intelligence seizes 12 lakh cigarettes worth Rs 1.63 crore from a container at Tuticorin port.
- The cigarettes were smuggled into India from the UAE camouflaged as A4 size papers.

MADURAI: Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) seized 12 lakh cigarettes worth Rs 1.63 crore from a container at Tuticorin port on Tuesday. The cigarettes were smuggled into India from the UAE camouflaged as A4 size papers.

Kerala-based smuggling gangs are believed to be behind it and investigations are underway to nab the smugglers.

Based on a specific information that foreign brand cigarettes are camouflaged as A4 size papers and smuggled from the UAE, DRI sleuths were keeping a watch on movement of containers and suspects. They narrowed down on a container from Port of Jebel Ali and segregated it from the cargo.

The container was opened by DRI officers in the presence of witnesses and examined. During the inspection, it was found that the first three rows of container was stacked with cartons of A4 size paper manufactured by Mondi, Russia.

Behind these cartons were different varieties of cigarettes hidden in 300 cartons. The cigarette brands found in these boxes were Davidoff White, Davidoff White Slim, Davidoff Gold, Davidoff Gold Slim (all of them are German origin), Dunhill Switch (British American Tobacco) and Gudang Garam International (Indonesian origin).

The cigarettes were seized by DRI as they were smuggled into the country in violation of provisions of Customs Act, 1962.

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/madurai/12-lakh-smuggled-cigarettes-seized-in-tamil-nadu/articleshow/56105165.cms>