

# THE TIMES OF INDIA

## Delhi businesswoman arrested after Rs 11 crore worth foreign cigarettes seized



MUMBAI: The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) has unearthed a cigarette smuggling racket with the seizure of two containers packed with banned foreign brands worth nearly Rs 11 crore at Nhava Sheva port. The contraband was mis-declared as fresh fruits, mushrooms and Thai lotus. The DRI arrested a businesswoman identified as Neha Sharma from Delhi for her involvement in the racket.

The goods were imported from Thailand. There were 63.65 lakh cigarette sticks worth over Rs 10.8 crore in the containers. DRI officials said they suspected the existence of three more containers which were yet to be declared. The DRI zonal unit acted on specific intelligence and intercepted two refrigerated containers that arrived at Nhava Sheva that had been declared to be a fruit called longan, mushrooms and lotus. Examination of the containers revealed the import was done by Vishwas International. The first container held 466 thermal boxes with 15,506 cartons that had more than 31 lakh cigarette sticks of various brands, besides 583 plastic boxes with longans.

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/foreign-cigarettes-worth-rs-11cr-found-in-fruit-boxes/articleshow/104710751.cms>