Customs Department seizes foreign cigarettes, areca nuts in Guwahati

GUWAHATI: Acting on a specific intelligence report, officers of the Anti-smuggling unit of the Guwahati Customs Division seized illegal foreign cigarettes and areca nuts on Wednesday.

The team seized 4,26,400 sticks of foreign-brand 'Esse Light' cigarettes contained inside 12 repacked cartons. The total value of the cigarettes has been estimated at Rs. 85,28,000. The cartons contained the seized items that were stacked at the premises of a Courier Service Hub located in Changsari and were to be dispatched to Bangalore. A case (10/UCL/IMP/CUS/GAU/2023–24) has been registered as there were no documents accompanied with the said consignment that indicated it to be of illegal importation.

On the other hand, again acting on specific intelligence, officers of the Anti-smuggling unit of the Guwahati Customs Division seized 1,32,400 sticks of Esse lights, made under authority of KT and G, Korea, Mond Paan (GTI) and Paris (special filter cigarette) in 18 parcels and cartons. The seized parcels and cartons containing cigarettes of foreign origin were found and detected at the National Parcel Hub in Mirza, Assam. The total value of the cigarettes has been estimated at Rs. 26,48,000. Prior to the investigation, the cigarettes were brought through the India post office and were to be dispatched to various locations. A case (09/UCL/IMP/CUS/GAU/2023–24) has been registered as there were no documents accompanied with the said consignment that indicated it to be of illegal importation.

The team also seized 20 parcels and cartons containing areca nuts believed to be of foreign origin that were found and detected at the National Parcel Hub in Mirza. The total weight of the items is 388.99 kg, and the total value of the areca nuts has been estimated at Rs. 3,37,519. A case (08/UCL/IMP/CUS/GAU/2023–24) has been registered.

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