## THE TIMES OF INDIA

## Large-scale seizure of contraband cigarettes



NEW DELHI: The new year has opened with a spoiler for the smugglers of foreign cigarettes in India, who otherwise consider this time of the year as the period to cheer. While the country was busy with people exchanging New Year greetings, the team of Vijayawada Customs Preventive Commissionerate was busy seizing a massive consignment of 30 lakh sticks of imported cigarettes of the Paris tobacco company, a European brand, near Narasaraopet town in Guntur District of Andhra Pradesh.

The value of the seized stock in the black market is more than Rs 5 crore. In another recent development, the team of Assam Rifles seized foreign cigarettes worth Rs 41.60 lakh from the Myanmar border in the Champhai district of Mizoram. Again, on January 5, four Lakh cigarette sticks valued at Rs 30 lakh were seized by the Mumbai Customs Officers at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport.

## Source:

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