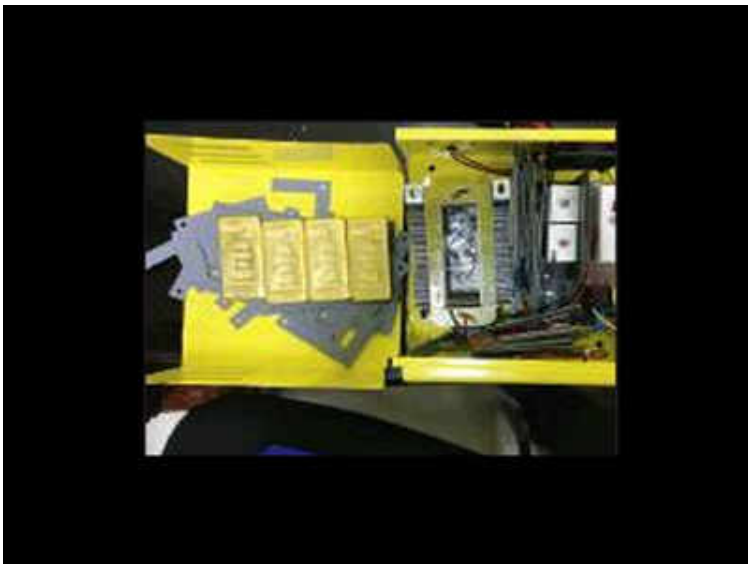


Printed from

**THE TIMES OF INDIA**

# DRI seizes gold worth Rs 1.23 crore

TNN | Jul 21, 2018, 08:51 AM IST



KOCHI: Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) seized gold worth Rs 1.23 crore at Cochin International Airport Ltd (Cial) on Friday.

Suresh Babu (58), a Thrissur native who arrived at Cial from Oman, has been arrested in connection with the case.

Four gold bars weighing one kg each were found concealed in a UPS found in the baggage of the passenger.

Sources said that the sleuths had to dismantle the UPS before finding the gold bars.

Sleuths recorded the arrest of the passenger after detailed interrogation on Friday night. Sources said that he would be produced before the court on Saturday morning.

Official sources said that they were attempting to trace the source of the gold. It is suspected that the passenger was a carrier hired by an organized gang engaged in gold smuggling. Hence, a probe was on to find the source and destination of the metal, sources said.

The customs department had seized 87kg of gold worth Rs 26.97 crore in 2017-2018 fiscal from Cial.

As per the customs data, as many as 254 cases of gold seizure were registered by them in the year. DRI has also been making seizures from the airport often.