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10cr ganja seized, DRI suspects Naxal link

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MUMBAI: The Directorate Revenue of Intelligence (DRI) busted a drug cartel and seized around 6.5 tonnes of ganja that was being transported from Odisha to Malkhangiri near Chattisgarh. The seizure was made near Raipur in Chattisgarh by the DRI's Mumbai zonal unit with help of local police. Officials have also stumbled upon the cartel's links with Naxal groups.

Acting on a tip-off, officials intercepted a truck in a sensitive Naxal-affected area on Sunday. "We carried a thorough search and found ganja worth Rs 10 crore. The source of the drugs is a Naxal-affected as it is nearly impossible for only a driver, cleaner and conduit to pass through that area so casually without being ambushed," said an official. The ganja was concealed in bags covered under coconuts.

A source said the DRI has arrested three persons-Dharam Rao, Surjit Singh Randhawa and Avataar Singh. While Randhawa and Avataar Singh are truck driver and cleaner, Rao is believed to be a conduit from Andhra Pradesh. The trio is being brought to Mumbai for interrogation.