

ANDHRA PRADESH

## 2 arrested, smuggled fake notes seized by DRI

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**

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Two persons, travelling by the Howrah-Hyderabad East Coast Express, were apprehended for allegedly carrying fake currency notes of the face value of Rs. 10.2 lakh, near here, on Saturday.

On getting specific information, officers of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Visakhapatnam Regional Unit, searched their baggage and found fake currency notes in five bundles. In all, there were 510 notes of Rs. 2,000 denomination, according to an official release. The notes were packed in a newspaper and kept in a pillow in their bag. On interrogation, the accused reportedly said they had obtained the notes from a person, who allegedly brought them from Bangladesh and handed over to them at Farakka, a few km from Malda in West Bengal, a known hub for fake notes circulation.

The accused, who belong to Bengaluru, allegedly stated that they intended to exchange the notes during the forthcoming elections in Karnataka.

One of the two accused reportedly has a criminal background and was earlier arrested in connection with a kidnapping case in Bengaluru. He is presently on bail. Both the persons have been booked in this case of smuggling of fake currency into the country, under the provisions of Customs Act, 1962.