

डीआरआई ने सोने के आभूषणों के निर्यात में धोखाधड़ी का पर्दाफाश किया

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हैदराबाद, सात मई (भाषा) हैदराबाद में विशेष आर्थिक क्षेत्र (एसईजेड) इकाई द्वारा सोने के आभूषणों के निर्यात में धोखाधड़ी का पर्दाफाश कर दिया गया और चार लोगों को गिरफ्तार किया गया है। राजस्व खुफिया निदेशालय ने मंगलवार को बताया कि अधिकारियों ने स्थानीय बाजार में 1,100 किलोग्राम के एसईजेड सोने को भेजे जाने का पता लगाया। डीआरआई अधिकारियों ने राविराल गांव में जेम्स एंड ज्वेलरी एसईजेड में स्थित इकाई में तीन से पांच मई तक तलाशी ली और पाया कि वह सोने के आभूषणों के निर्यात में धोखाधड़ी शामिल है। डीआरआई ने कहा कि एसईजेड इकाई और बंजारा हिल्स में इसी इकाई की एक अन्य शाखा में रखे सामान में भी बड़ी अनियमितताएं पाई गईं।

4 held for diverting 1,100 kg gold for export to local market

SREENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, MAY 7

THE HYDERABAD unit of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) has arrested four jewelers for allegedly diverting 1,100 kg gold into the local market instead of exporting it from the gems and jewellery special economic zone (SEZ), in Ravirala village near Shamshabad.

Sources said Sri Krishna Jewellers Group, which had taken an SEZ licence to import gold to manufacture gold jewellery and export it, was found allegedly diverting jewellery made from gold for local markets. The four arrested are owners and partners of the group, officials said.

"The unit was kept under surveillance and it was found indulging in fraudulent export and diversion of SEZ gold into the local market," an official said. "As per preliminary estimates, the unit has diverted over 1,100 kg gold. Four people have been arrested so far, and further investigation is in progress."

The DRI carried out several searches and had intercepted various people involved in

the case between May 3 to 5, officials said. The DRI team learnt that the unit has been "mis-declaring" export consignment as gold jewellery studded with semi-precious stones.

An examination of the export consignment revealed that it was not gold jewellery but "crudely made jewellery" of stones with traces of gold in them. In the export consignment, the total weight of gold was declared at 19 kg and that of semi-precious stones at 2 kg, officials said. However, an examination revealed that only 565 grams of gold was used in the export consignment and the rest of the 20.85 kg weight was of stones.

While value of the export consignment was declared at Rs 5.45 crore, it was found that it is actually worth Rs 22.16 lakh. The fraudulent export consignment was seized, officials said.

Gold generated from this was diverted and sold in the local market, according to officials. Around 10 kg foreign-marked gold, which was diverted to the local market and sent for delivery, was intercepted and seized, officials said. Major discrepancies were also found in the stock held at the SEZ unit and at another unit of the same group at Hyderabad's Banjara Hills.

Hyderabad jeweller held in illegal gold trade case

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HYDERABAD: Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) sleuths have arrested vice-chairman and managing director of Sri Krishna Jewellers group, Ravi Kumar, in connection with allegations of customs Act violation over gold trade. Pradeep Kumar (55) was sent to judicial remand at Chanchalguda jail on Sunday after he was produced before the special judge for economic offences court in Nampally.

Sources said that DRI continued searches regarding the case on Monday, too, and the agency has so far arrested three persons including Pradeep Kumar in the case.

In the judicial remand report, it was alleged that charges against Pradeep Kumar, son of Shiva Charan, a resident of Banjara Hills, are punishable under Section 135 of the Customs Act. The case is under investigation by Directorate of Revenue Intelligence Hyderabad.

The court has ordered the judicial remand from May 5 to May 17. He was asked to be produced in the court again on May 17 at 10.30 am.

When contacted by TOI, Chanchalguda jail superintendent, K Arjun Rao, said: "So far, three persons were arrested in the case and sent to judicial remand. Apart from Pradeep Kumar, his security officer and another, his employee, were arrested."

According to the registrar of companies records, Pradeep Kumar is director of six companies that are into jewellery as well as construction business.

Section 135 of Customs Act, under which the accused were arrested, deals with duty evasion or prohibition of certain activities about exports and availing tax benefits. Repeated attempts to contact the Sri Krishna group officials went in vain. A source close to Sri Krishna Group, who did not want to be quoted, told TOI: "The case is not related to Sri Krishna Jewellers but to one of the other group companies." He said, "Competitors in the business may have been behind the implication of Pradeep Kumar in the case."