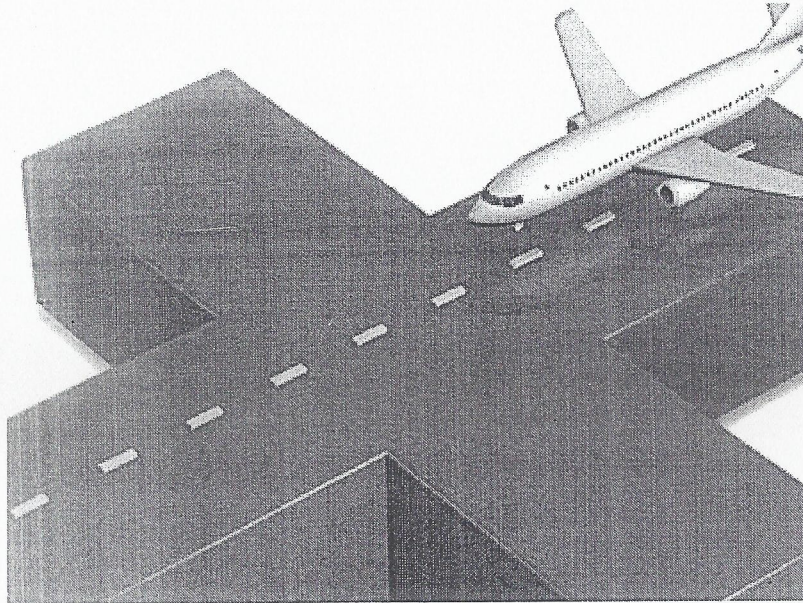


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Gold worth Rs 77 lakh seized at Thiruvananthapuram International Airport

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THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Officials of the directorate of revenue intelligence (DRI) seized gold worth Rs 77.51 lakh from two passengers, who arrived at Trivandrum International Airport, from Dubai on Thursday.

The passengers were identified as Mansoor Shahul Hameed, 47, and Sameer Saleem, 35, both residents of Vallakadavu, Thiruvananthapuram. They had arrived in Emirates air flight EK 522.

They were intercepted by DRI officials at green channel (passage for passengers who have no dutiable goods to declare).

“Mansoor is businessman in Dubai, while Sameer travelled on visiting visa. It is being probed how they managed to reach the green channel, carrying this much quantity of gold,” said a DRI officer .