

DRI traps 8 smugglers, gold worth Rs. 1 cr seized

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Hyderabad: Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) sleuths intercepted several gangs involved in smuggling gold through inter-agency liaison and seized 2.5 kilos of the yellow metal worth Rs 1 crore from their possession on Tuesday.

Acting on specific intelligence that a passenger travelling from Dubai to Hyderabad was carrying a suitcase containing gold and he would be handing it over to two other passengers at the RGI Airport, a DRI team intercepted the three suspects near the the exit gate of the airport at Shamshabad and seized a hammer from the suitcase. While the passenger came from Dubai by flight 6E-205, the other two passengers came by flight I5-1543 from Jaipur. DRI sleuths cut the metal head of the hammer and found 931 grams of 24 karat gold concealed inside it. The trio was arrested.

The DRI team from Hyderabad also alerted their Mumbai airport counterparts about a similar modus operandi of gold smuggling being attempted there. The DRI team of Mumbai arrested three passengers who landed at CSI Airport on Tuesday from Dubai and Jaipur in possession of a hammer containing 931 grams of gold concealed inside the metal head.

The DRI team also intercepted two passengers who arrived from Dubai at Hyderabad airport through customs officials on Tuesday. One of the passengers carried a juicer with 160 gm gold rod concealed in the motor, while another passenger brought 490 gm of gold paste. The gold seized from the eight offenders was 2.5 kg worth Rs. 1 crore.