

Exotic birds, animals seized in Chennai

DRI swoop fallout of Aizawl arrest

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Sleuths of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) rescued 70 birds of exotic species and animals from a residential premises in the city and from a farm house on the outskirts. One person has been detained during the operation.

The DRI officials said a crackdown was done on a syndicate smuggling exotic birds and animals by the officers in Chennai. It is a follow up to the work done by officers in Aizawl, Guwahati, and Kolkata. The sleuths at Aizawl and Kolkata intercepted a consignment of assorted wildlife of foreign origin consisting of 35 birds of various species, animals and one baby marmoset and one Bengal cat at the Kolkata airport, which was smuggled through the porous Indo-Myanmar border.

The main accused was arrested a few days ago by the



A red-tailed black cockatoo, one of the many species seized by the DRI in Chennai.

DRI unit at Aizawl. During investigation, the smuggler named his customers based out of Mumbai, Pune and Chennai.

Based on his inputs, the DRI, Chennai unit searched at two locations – a residential premises in Chennai and a farm house on the outskirts. This resulted in the seizure of Scarlet Macaw, Harlequin Macaw, Blue Gold Macaw, various varieties of Conure, Cockatoos and other species.