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DRI seizes 35 exotic birds worth Rs 86 lakh at Kolkata airport, 2 held

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NEW DELHI: The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) seized 35 exotic birds worth over Rs 86 lakh at Kolkata airport on Saturday. The consignment included lemurs, cockatoos, eclectus parrots, macaws, cassowaries and others.

The endangered species of birds have been handed over to Kolkata zoo for safe custody, a senior DRI official said. Two persons were arrested in the case, including Pune resident Dominic Jacob Sequeira who had received the consignment smuggled from Bangkok.

The DRI official said the birds were smuggled from Thailand through the Myanmar border. The consignment was brought to Kolkata from Aizawl by Air India flight AI-712.