

PRESS NOTE

Subject: DRI busts massive evasion of customs duty by importers of crystallized glass panels; detains glass panels worth more than Rs. 7 Crores; recovers more than Rs. 9.5 Crores; four persons arrested.

Specific intelligence was developed by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Zonal Unit, Ahmedabad that various importers of crystallized glass panels were evading payment of appropriate customs duty by resorting to gross undervaluation at Mundra Port, Nhavasheva Port and ICD Tughlakabad. Searches were conducted by the officers of DRI at the premises of several importers at Ahmedabad, Delhi, Abu Road and Kishangarh, Rajasthan. Many incriminating evidences were recovered which revealed that these importers were importing these crystallized glass panels at much higher value from China but were declaring much lower value in the commercial invoices submitted to the Customs to evade customs duty. Remittance of the value shown in the invoice was being sent by them to their foreign supplier through banking channels whereas the rest money (difference between the actual value and the value shown in the invoices) was being sent through Hawala channels. During the course of enquiry these importers confessed that they were resorting to undervaluation and thereby evading customs duty. These importers have voluntarily paid more than Rs. 9.5 crores so far towards customs duty evaded by them. Live consignments of crystallized glass panels imported by these importers at Mundra Port, Nhavasheva Port and ICD Tughlakabad and the consignments lying at there premises/warehouses worth more than Rs. 7 crores have been detained by DRI. Four persons (one Managing Director of a Ahmedabad based company, one Director/Proprietor of two Mumbai based Firms and one each from Abu Road based firm and Kishangarh based Firm) have been arrested so far by DRI in ongoing enquiry.