

# **DRI seized 3,223 kg gold worth Rs 974 cr in FY'18**

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New Delhi, Dec 6 () Customs authorities have seized 3,223 kg of gold worth Rs 974 crore in 2017-18, more than double the quantity seized in the previous financial year, according to a report.

As per the report by Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), large part of the domestic gold market in India is being served by illicit smuggling of the metal.

"Gold smuggling has strong linkages to organised crime and international criminal syndicates. The total quantity of gold seized by Indian Customs in 2017-18 was 3,223 kg valued at Rs 974 crore, an increase of 103 per cent from 1,422 kg valued at Rs 472 crore seized in 2016-17," it said.

Majority of seizures were made in Kolkata, Mumbai, Chennai and Delhi, which are high consumption centres of smuggled gold, DRI's Smuggling in India Report 2017-18 said.

It said bulk cash smuggling has also increased exponentially in 2017-18 and Indian Customs seized foreign currency worth Rs 89 crore primarily from Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai and Ahmedabad airports.

Smuggling of foreign exchange is used to fund purchase of contraband goods such as gold, electronics, garments abroad, which is then smuggled into India.

There was also a marked increase in the number of seizures of drugs and psychotropic substances in 2017-18. The number of seizures increased to 78, from 64 in 2016-17, the report said.

"DRI seized 26,785 kg of 'ganja' in 2017-18 as compared to 16,197 kg in 2016-17. Ganja is mostly transported through commercial vehicles by concealments in false partitions, secret cavities and under cover cargo to avoid detection," it said.

Also, there were 15 cases of seizure of Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN) booked by DRI in 2017-18 amounting to face value of Indian Rs 70.06 Lakh, it said.

DRI's intelligence, and interceptions of goods violating Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) indicate that majority of these products originate in China.

The counterfeit goods enter the country through cargo by sea or air routes or through porous and off-routes through the land borders along Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar etc.

Counterfeit commodities most prone to smuggling in India are cosmetics, shoes, watches, sunglasses, auto parts like spark-plugs, handbags and mobile accessories.

In 2017-18, DRI seized 42.6 million smuggled cigarette sticks valued at Rs 34.29 crore, illicitly imported food supplements, anabolic steroids and hormone supplements valued at Rs 5.6 crore.

In 2017-18, DRI detected various types of commercial frauds including those related to mis-declaration, mis-invoicing, drawback fraud, misuse of Preferential/Free Trade Agreements, misuse of export incentive schemes such as EPCG, Advance Authorisation.

In 2017-18, DRI detected 940 cases of commercial fraud involving duty amount of Rs 3,064.65 crore.

In this period, an amount of Rs 1,743.01 crore was demanded as differential duty by issuing demand cum show cause notices.

An amount of Rs 1,517.4 crore was recovered by DRI during this period. JD CS ANU ANU

## DRI ने 2017-18 में पकड़ा 974 करोड़ रुपए का 3,223 किलो सोना, तस्करी कर लाया जा रहा था देश में

डीआरआई की रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक देश के घरेलू स्वर्ण बाजार में तस्करी के जरिये आए सोने की हिस्सेदारी बहुत अधिक है।

Edited by: India TV Paisa Desk [Published on:06 Dec 2018, 8:37 PM IST]



Photo:DRI SEIZED GOLD

DRI Seized Gold

**नई दिल्ली।** सीमा शुल्क विभाग के अधिकारियों ने वित्त वर्ष 2017-18 के दौरान 974 करोड़ रुपए मूल्य का 3,223 किलोग्राम सोना जब्त किया है। यह आंकड़ा इससे पूर्व के वित्त वर्ष की तुलना में दोगुना से भी अधिक है। राजस्व आसूचना निदेशालय (डीआरआई) की रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक देश के घरेलू स्वर्ण बाजार में तस्करी के जरिये आए सोने की हिस्सेदारी बहुत अधिक है। रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि सोने की तस्करी का संगठित अपराध और दुनियाभर के अपराधियों के गठजोड़ से गहरा नाता है।

### 1 साल में 103 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि

वित्त वर्ष 2017-18 में भारतीय सीमा शुल्क विभाग ने 974 करोड़ रुपए मूल्य का 3,223 किलोग्राम सोना जब्त किया, जो उससे पिछले वित्त वर्ष की तुलना में 103 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि दिखाता है। वित्त वर्ष 2016-17 में 472 करोड़ रुपए मूल्य का 1,422 किलोग्राम सोना जब्त किया गया था।

## चार महानगरों से हुई सबसे ज्यादा जब्ती

डीआरआई की भारत में तस्करी रिपोर्ट 2017-18 में कहा गया है कि अधिकतर जब्ती कोलकाता, मुंबई, चेन्नई और दिल्ली से हुई है। इसके साथ ही 2017- 18 में थोक नकदी की तस्करी भी तेजी से बढ़ी है। इस दौरान सीमा शुल्क विभाग ने दिल्ली, मुंबई, कोलकाता, चेन्नई और अहमदाबाद हवाईअड्डों से 89 करोड़ रुपए की विदेशी मुद्रा जब्त की है।

## नशीले पदार्थों की भी बढ़ी तस्करी

रिपोर्ट के अनुसार वर्ष के दौरान नशीले पदार्थों की जब्ती भी बढ़ी है। वर्ष 2016-17 में ऐसे पदार्थों की जहां 64 जब्ती हुई वहीं 2017- 18 में यह संख्या बढ़कर 78 पर पहुंच गई। डीआरआई ने 2016- 17 में 16,197 किलो गांजा बरामद किया, जो कि 2017- 18 में बढ़कर 26,785 किलो रहा। इसके अलावा नकली भारतीय मुद्रा और नकली सामान भी काफी मात्रा में जब्त किया गया। तस्करी के जरिये लाई जाने वाली सिगरेट भी बड़ी मात्रा में पकड़ी गई।

**Web Title:** DRI seized 3,223 kg gold worth Rs 974 cr in FY'18 | DRI ने 2017-18 में पकड़ा 974 करोड़ रुपए का 3,223 किलो सोना, तस्करी के जरिये लाया जा रहा था देश में

**Economy**

# Gold seizures double, raise fears of rise in smuggling

Shishir Sinha Updated on December 06, 2018



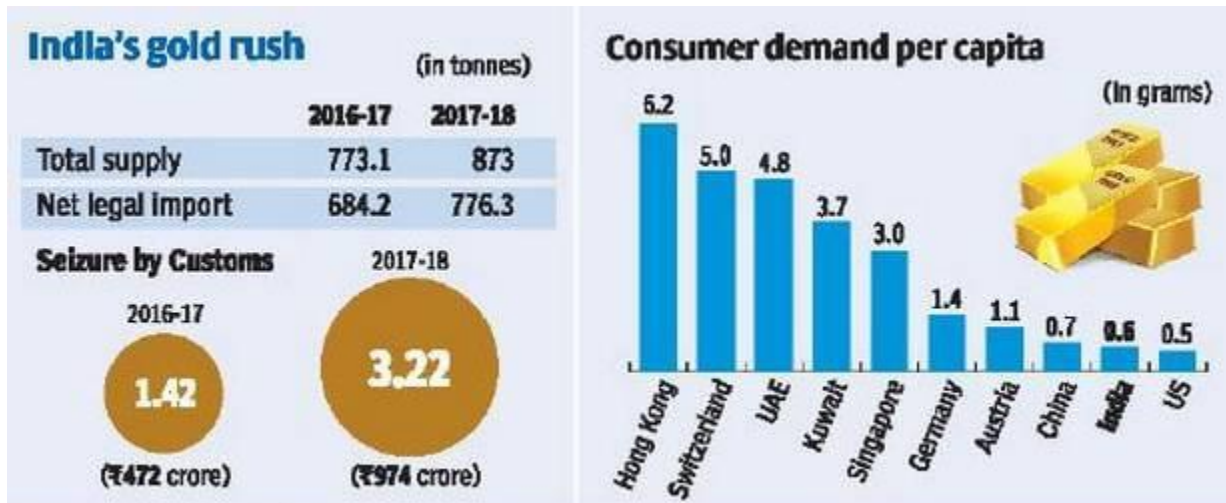
DRI seizes 3,223 kg gold worth ₹974 crore in 2017-18, against 1,422 kg gold worth ₹472 crore in 2016-17

Gold smuggling seems to be on the rise as seizures by the Customs Department has doubled in one year.

According to data compiled by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), the total quantity of gold seized by the Customs in 2017-18 was 3,223 kg valued at ₹974 crore, an increase of 103 per cent from 1,422 kg valued at ₹472 crore seized in 2016-17.

Unofficial estimates suggest that seizure forms any thing between 5 and 10 per cent of the total illegal trade. Considering this, smuggling of gold could be up to 30 tonnes during the last fiscal with a value of over ₹9,000 crore. The agency is taking all steps to check innovative ways of smuggling.





Source: World Gold Council, DRI

According to the publication ‘Smuggling in India Report 2017-18’ by DRI, a large part of the domestic gold market is being served by the illicit smuggling of gold. Majority of seizures made by the DRI has been those imported through India’s land borders in cities such as Kolkata, Mumbai, Chennai and Delhi, which are high consumption centres of smuggled gold.

### Land borders

Large quantities of smuggled gold reaches Kolkata from India’s land borders with Myanmar and Bhutan and is then transited to other metropolitan cities. In terms of the State-wise seizures by the DRI in 2017-18, the maximum number of seizures were made in North-Eastern States, followed by Delhi, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Maharashtra. Bulk cash smuggling has also increased exponentially in 2017-18. The Customs seized foreign currency worth ₹89 crore primarily from prominent airports like Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai and Ahmedabad. Smuggling of foreign exchange is used to fund purchase of contraband goods such as gold, electronics and garments abroad, which is then smuggled into India. It is also used as a remittance for undervalued imports into India.

Cash smuggling increases the returns of organised smuggling syndicates as physical movement of foreign currency saves the commission (3-5 per cent) payable on hawala transactions, the report mentioned. According to a report by FICCI, outright smuggling as defined by the DRI is “the secret movement of goods across national borders to avoid Customs duties or import or export restrictions.”

Non-declaration (where no product is declared at port of entry) as well as not being in possession of any legal import documentation can also be considered as outright smuggling. But, smuggling could also take place through legal channels of trade by various means to evade Customs duties and other taxes applicable on such goods and products. This is referred to as technical smuggling and such goods are liable for confiscation under Section 111 of the Customs Act 1962. Ways and means of technical smuggling may be classified into four categories based on seizure data of DRI which include undervaluation, mis-declaration, misuse of end use and other notifications and other means.

### **Import duty**

The main reason for smuggling are the duties. At present, import duty (technically known as Custom Duty) on gold is 10 per cent apart from GST (Goods & Services Tax) at the rate of 3 per cent. Once gold is smuggled, there will be price arbitrage by at least 10 per cent for the persons bringing gold.

Thu, Dec 6th, 2018

General | By [Manish Sen](#)

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*DRI Chief Debi Prasad Dash*

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