

Government of India वित्तमंत्रालय (राजस्वविभाग) Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) राजस्वआसूचनानिदेशालय DIRECTORATE OF REVENUE INTELLIGENCE Chennai Zonal Unit

## PRESS NOTE

## DRI seizes 17.83 kgs of gold smuggled valued about Rs. 5.5 Crore smuggled from Sri Lanka through coastal Tamil Nadu, being transported to Chennai by bus.

Acting on specific intelligence that foreign origin gold was being smuggled into India from Sri Lanka and being transported to Chennai by bus, the DRI officers kept watch on the vehicles travelling from southern Tamil Nadu to Chennai, and intercepted two passengers on 11.7.2018 who were travelling by an Omni Bus from Madurai to Chennai, at the Boothakudi Toll Plaza near Tiruchirappalli.

The officers checked the passengers and their baggage, and it was found that each of the two suspect passengers had a bag and a cloth belt. On thorough search, the officers found 17.83 kilograms of gold of foreign origin, in the form of bars and crude chains which was seized. The two passengers admitted that the said gold had been smuggled into India by sea and that they were transporting it to Chennai for a monetary consideration.

In a swift follow-up action, the officers also apprehended the mastermind at Chennai who was the intended recipient of the smuggled gold. His role in the entire gamut of smuggling is being probed.

Sd/-Additional Director General, DRI, Chennai Zonal Unit 12.07.2018