



OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS
Visakhapatnam International Airport, Visakhapatnam

F.No : OS NO. 20(AIU-AIRPORT)

Dt 26.10.2017

PRESS NOTE

On the basis of the intelligence gathered by the officers of Air Intelligence unit at Visakhapatnam International Airport, one Sri Lankan National by name Mr. Shareefdeen Mohamed Mahroof, who arrived from Colombo to Visakhapatnam by Sri Lankan airlines flight UL-159 was intercepted at the Green Channel on 26/10/2017. On enquiry, he stated that he was not carrying any dutiable goods on person/ or in his baggage. Not satisfied with his replies, personal search was conducted and the Metal Detector indicated the presence of some metal objects in his body. On persistent interrogation, the passenger admitted that he swallowed two pieces of gold. Immediately, the passenger was admitted to King George Hospital, Visakhapatnam, to bring out the goods under medical supervision. Further investigation is under progress.

Based on the intelligence, one more passenger Mrs Hajara Umma Jeinul Abdeen, a Sri Lankan National was also intercepted when she tried to exit through the Green Channel. On enquiry it was found that she was in possession of about 88 grams of gold jewellery and tried to pass through the Green Channel without declaring the same to the Customs. The gold jewellery weighing about 88 grams valued at Rs 2,41,807/- (Market Value) was seized by the Customs Department as the passenger tried to smuggle the gold into the country by concealing the same.

From our records, it was observed that, both these Sri Lankan passengers are frequent travellers and were found to be involved in similar gold smuggling case at Hyderabad Airport last month.


(Dr.D.K.Srinivas)

Commissioner of Customs