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Kelantan Customs seized illicit cigarettes worth RM1 million

KOTA BARU: The state Customs Department seized contraband cigarettes worth more than RM1.1 million, which includes unpaid duties, in two separate operations recently.

Three men were also detained for the possession of the cigarettes.

State director Wan Jamal Abdul Salam Wan Long said the operations were conducted in Tumpat and Kota Baru on June 15 and 16.

"A Customs team raided the two areas following public tip-offs on illegal activities.

"In the first operation in Tumpat at about 8.30am on June 15, the team seized 115 boxes containing 150,000 sticks of cigarettes.

"They then detained a man and seized three lorries."

In the second operation, they nabbed two men and seized 421,800 sticks of cigarettes in Kota Baru the following day.

Also seized were a lorry and two cars, he said.

"The cigarettes seized are



Wan Jamal Abdul Salam Wan Long

worth about RM138,000 and its unpaid duties are about RM966,600."

He said the cigarettes were smuggled into the state via sea route.

"We suspect the items will be sent to suppliers outside Kelantan."