

## Adulterated tea, banned tobacco products seized

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Surprise inspections held on Thursday and Friday

Officials from the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) seized over 100 kg of adulterated tea and banned tobacco products during raids conducted in the last two days.

B. Vijayalalithambigai, Designated Officer for FSSAI, told The Hindu that as many as five teams of food safety officers conducted surprise inspections across the city for the past two days.

The teams conducted inspections at shops in Ondipudur, Singanallur, Peelamedu, Ganapathy, Kuniyamuthur, Sular on Thursday and Friday. During the inspection, they found adulterated tea weighing around 66.50 kg kept for sale in a few shops. Similarly another team seized 34 kg of banned tobacco products from a shop in Annur. Totally 42 kg of banned tobacco products were seized.

Besides this, the teams also seized 30 litres of expired drinking water sachets. The seized products were destroyed.

Showcause notices under section 63 of FSSAI Act were served on 19 shops that do not have licence for running food business.

Notices were also served on nine shops for failing to register their shop under section 55 of FSSAI Act, the official said.

Ms. Vijayalalithambigai said that the anganwadis, and PDS outlets in the city would be inspected soon.