Tobacco products seized from bus

The bus came to Coimbatore from Bengaluru

Officials of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) seized tobacco products worth more than Rs. 10 lakh from a bus that arrived Coimbatore from
Bengaluru on Tuesday morning. For the first time, the bus too has been taken to custody.

The bus belonged to No. 1 Air Travels, and it reached the city around 6 a.m., the officials said. Officials were following the bus after they got specific information on tobacco being transported in it. The bus halted at Nava India, where 15 parcel boxes were unloaded.

“We checked the boxes, and found banned tobacco products in them. Though there was no mention about the sender or receiver of the boxes, we could identify the receiver,” said B. Vijayalalithambigai, Designated Officer of FSSAI, Coimbatore.

Earlier this year, another bus belonging to the same firm was found transporting tobacco products. Officials said that a case will be registered under Section 59 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

Ms. Vijayalalithambigai said that such frequent checks will continue to curb the supply of banned tobacco products from other States.