

Three suspects arrested as gang stealing vehicles busted

Network smuggled more than 20 cars out of country using fake papers

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- Published: 00:00 January 24, 2011



Sharjah: Three members of a gang that allegedly stole over 20 vehicles and smuggled them out of the country have been arrested.

A senior official at the Criminal Investigations Department (CID) at Sharjah Police said that the gang had members operating inside and out of the country.

"The suspects had previously arranged to buy off vehicles at a low price that were mortgaged by banks," the official said. The owners would then file a case with police and claim that their vehicles had been stolen, in order to claim the insurance money, he said.

"Some of the vehicles had also been stolen from car rental companies, including buses, which were rented out by the gang members," the official said.

Investigation

Sharjah Police initially launched the investigation after they received a complaint from a car rental company that an Eastern European woman had rented a vehicle and failed to return it.

"The owner of the car rental company claimed that he found the vehicle at one of the ports, and was being ready to be exported with fake documents," the official said.

During the investigation, police discovered that A.A.H, a Pakistani national, was employed at a transportation company and had dropped off the vehicle in question in another emirate, in addition to a 4x4 vehicle that did not have licence plates.

From the suspect's confession, police were able to identify and arrest the second suspect, M. Tatiyana from Uzbekistan. The suspect worked for the network and was allegedly responsible for renting vehicles from car rental companies by using forged passports and then selling them to the gang.

Police also arrested B.G.G., a Pakistani national, who also worked for the gang. The case has been referred to Sharjah Public Prosecution.

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