



SINGAPORE CUSTOMS 新加坡关税局 KASTAM SINGAPURA சிங்கப்பூர் கங்கத்துறை

MEDIA RELEASE

13 January 2023

Man and woman arrested and more than 3,400 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes seized in operation

Singapore Customs arrested a 28-year-old Singaporean woman and a 20-year-old Singaporean man, and seized 3,498 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes in an operation on 10 and 11 January 2023.

Case information

During the operation at an industrial building in Hillview Terrace, Singapore Customs officers checked a van and uncovered 1,070 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes in the van. A woman, who was the driver of the van, was arrested onsite.

Subsequently, officers checked on a unit in the industrial building and uncovered another 2,428 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes.

On 11 January 2023, officers arrested a man, who allegedly used another truck to deliver the duty-unpaid cigarettes to the industrial building.

All the duty-unpaid cigarettes and the vehicles were seized in the operation. The total duty and Goods and Services Tax (GST) evaded amounted to about \$360,210 and \$32,020 respectively. Investigations are ongoing.

Buying, selling, conveying, delivering, storing, keeping, possessing or dealing with duty-unpaid goods are serious offences under the Customs Act and the GST Act.

Offenders can be fined up to 40 times the amount of duty and GST evaded and/or jailed for up to six years. Vehicles used in the commission of such offences are liable to be forfeited.

Members of public with information on smuggling activities or evasion of duty or GST can call the Singapore Customs hotline on 1800-2330000 or email customs_intelligence@customs.gov.sg to report these illegal activities.

Singapore Customs

13 January 2023

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ANNEX



Duty-unpaid cigarettes found in the van.



Duty-unpaid cigarettes found in the industrial unit.



The truck allegedly used to collect and deliver duty-unpaid cigarettes to the industrial building.



A total of 3,498 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes seized in the operation.