



SINGAPORE CUSTOMS 新加坡关税局 **KASTAM SINGAPURA** சிங்கப்பூர் கங்கத்துறை

MEDIA RELEASE

29 April 2022

Singapore Customs arrests two men and seizes more than 4,500 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes

Singapore Customs arrested two male Singaporeans, aged 25 and 37, and seized more than 4,500 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes in an operation on 27 April 2022.

Case information

During the operation conducted at a carpark in the vicinity of Lorong 8 Toa Payoh, Singapore Customs officers observed two men transferring boxes from a Singapore-registered truck to a Singapore-registered car. Suspecting that the two men were involved in duty-unpaid cigarette activities, officers moved in to conduct checks on the two men. One of the men attempted to flee the scene but was eventually stopped by officers. Both men were arrested. Officers uncovered 4,540 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes in the two vehicles.

A packet of unknown white powder substance suspected to contain controlled drugs was also found in the truck. The matter was referred to the Central Narcotics Bureau for further investigation.

The duty-unpaid cigarettes and the two vehicles were seized, and the total duty and Goods and Services tax (GST) evaded amounted to about \$515,810 and \$39,410 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

29 April 2022

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Duty-unpaid cigarettes found in the truck.



Duty-unpaid cigarettes found in the boot and rear passenger seat of the car.



A total of 4,540 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes were seized in the operation.