



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

MEDIA RELEASE

30 June 2022

Singapore Customs arrests three men and a woman and seizes 1,100 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes

Singapore Customs arrested four suspects - two male PRC nationals, a male Singaporean and a female Singaporean - aged between 25 and 42, and seized 1,100 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes in an operation on 28 June 2022.

Case information

During the operation conducted in the vicinity of Waringin Park, Singapore Customs officers observed brown boxes being transferred from a Singapore-registered van into a Singapore-registered car parked side by side. Suspecting that the brown boxes contained duty-unpaid cigarettes, officers moved in to conduct checks on the three men and woman, and uncovered 150 and 950 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes in the car and van respectively. All four persons were arrested.

The duty-unpaid cigarettes, two vehicles, and cash amounting to \$6,300 found on the two PRC nationals suspected to be linked to duty-unpaid cigarette transactions, were seized in the operation. The total duty and Goods and Services tax (GST) evaded amounted to about \$93,940 and \$7,470 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 and proceeds of sales of duty-unpaid cigarettes are also 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

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A van and a car parked side by side.



Duty-unpaid cigarettes found in the van and car.



A total of 1,100 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes were seized in the operation.