

MEDIA RELEASE

Immediate

25 March 2025

SINGAPORE CUSTOMS SEIZED OVER 900 BOTTLES OF DUTY-UNPAID LIQUOR AND OVER 100 PACKETS OF DUTY-UNPAID CIGARETTES AT GEYLANG ROAD

Singapore, 25 March 2025 – Singapore Customs arrested a 48-year-old female Chinese national and seized 948 bottles of duty-unpaid liquor and 108 packets of duty-unpaid cigarettes in an enforcement operation conducted on 20 March 2025. The total duty and Goods and Services Tax (GST) evaded amounted to about \$42,397.

Acting on information received, Customs officers launched an investigation into the woman, who was suspected to be involved in the trade of duty-unpaid products. Incriminating messages and photographs detailing transactions of duty-unpaid liquor and cigarettes were uncovered in her mobile phone. A follow-up search at her residence in Geylang Road led to the discovery of 948 bottles of duty-unpaid liquor and 108 packets of duty-unpaid cigarettes. The woman was arrested.

3 Investigations revealed that the woman had allegedly purchased the duty-unpaid liquor and cigarettes through a social messaging platform for resale. Court proceedings are ongoing.

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

1

Offenders can be fined up to 40 times the amount of duty and GST evaded and/or jailed for up to six years.

5 Singapore Customs remains committed to enforcing strict compliance with customs regulations and protecting revenue. Members of public with information on smuggling activities or duty or GST evasion can report it to Customs at https://go.gov.sg/reportcustomsoffence.

Annex A: Photographs of the operations

-END-

About Singapore Customs

Singapore Customs protects revenue and facilitates trade for Singapore's economic growth while continuously striving to be a world-leading customs authority. As a partner of the Ministry of Finance, we ensure compliance with customs and tax regulations, safeguard the nation's financial interests, and combat illicit trade activities. We also enable seamless trade by simplifying customs processes, building global trade connectivity, and maintaining Singapore's position as a trusted global trading hub. Guided by our values of integrity, commitment, courage, responsiveness and teamwork, we strive for excellence with a professional and innovative team. Together, we ensure revenue and enable trade, fostering a thriving Singapore economy.

To find out more, visit our website at www.customs.gov.sg



Annex A



Duty-unpaid liquor and duty-unpaid cigarettes found in the woman's residence.