



SINGAPORE CUSTOMS 新加坡关税局 KASTAM SINGAPURA சிங்கப்பூர் கங்கத்துறை

MEDIA RELEASE

15 March 2022

Singapore Customs arrests a man and seizes more than 1,000 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes

Singapore Customs arrested a 29-year-old male Malaysian and seized more than 1,000 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes in an operation on 12 March 2022.

Case information

During an operation conducted in the wee hours of 12 March 2022 at the vicinity of Tuas South Walk, Singapore Customs officers spotted a Malaysia-registered prime mover attached with a trailer and a Singapore-registered truck parked back-to-back along the roadside. Officers moved in to conduct a check and found 1,020 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes in the truck. A Malaysian man, who was the driver of the lorry, was arrested. Investigations revealed that the duty-unpaid cigarettes in the truck were retrieved from a modified compartment in the floorboard of the trailer.

The duty-unpaid cigarettes and the two vehicles were seized. The total duty and Goods and Services tax (GST) evaded amounted to about \$87,100 and \$6,930 respectively. Court proceedings against the man 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

15 March 2022

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ANNEX



Duty-unpaid cigarettes found in the truck.



Trailer with a modified floorboard.



The lorry and truck parked along Tuas South Walk.



A total of 1,020 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes seized.