



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

MEDIA RELEASE

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Singaporean woman fined \$5,500 for evading GST on branded goods she bought overseas for sale here

A 25-year-old Singaporean woman, Joei Chen Si Hui (陈思德), was sentenced by the State Courts on 18 July 2018 to a fine of \$5,500 for fraudulent evasion of Goods and Services Tax (GST).

Chen pleaded guilty to one charge of fraudulent evasion of GST on goods brought into Singapore.

Another charge of failure to keep documents and records on goods she had imported previously was taken into consideration in the sentencing.

On 12 January 2018, Chen arrived at the Changi Airport on a flight from Paris. She was stopped for checks as she was exiting via the Customs Green Channel. A total of 10 branded items which Chen had bought overseas, including wallets, a handbag and a belt, were found in her luggage. Despite knowing that GST would be payable on the goods, which were worth over \$11,710, Chen did not declare them for GST payment. She was subsequently arrested.

Investigations revealed that Chen had bought the branded goods from France, and she had posted photos of some of the goods on her social media pages for sale. The total amount of GST evaded on the goods amounted to about \$819.

It is the responsibility of all arriving travellers to make accurate and complete declaration of the dutiable and taxable items in their possession for duty and GST payment. Under the Customs Act, any person found guilty of fraudulent evasion of GST will be liable to a fine up to 20 times the amount of tax evaded and/or be jailed for up to two years.

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ANNEX



Chen was stopped for checks at the Changi Airport as she was exiting via the Customs Green Channel. Despite knowing that GST would be payable on the goods she had bought in France, which were worth over \$11,710, Chen did not declare them for GST payment.

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