



**SINGAPORE
CUSTOMS**

MEDIA RELEASE

Immediate

9 April 2025

SINGAPORE CUSTOMS SEIZED 2,000 CARTONS OF DUTY-UNPAID CIGARETTES AND OVER \$10,000 IN CASH IN YISHUN

Singapore, 9 April 2025 – On 3 April 2025, in its efforts to combat tax evasion, Singapore Customs (Customs) conducted an operation at Yishun Industrial Park A and arrested a 33-year-old male Indian national.

2 During the operation, Customs officers observed the man alighting from a truck. They moved in to conduct checks, uncovering 2,000 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes and \$10,150 in cash, believed to be proceeds from the sales of the duty-unpaid cigarettes. The duty-unpaid cigarettes and the cash were seized.

3 Investigations revealed that the man was allegedly recruited by a friend based overseas to deliver the duty-unpaid cigarettes locally. The total duty and Goods and Services Tax (GST) evaded amounted to about \$216,636. 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. 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 operation

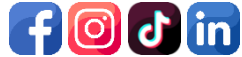
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About Singapore Customs

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

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Annex A



Duty-unpaid cigarettes found in the truck.