

SINGAPORE CUSTOMS 新加坡关税局 KASTAM SINGAPURA சிங்கப்பூர் சங்கத்துறை

## MEDIA RELEASE

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## Beauty salon owner fined S\$21,800 for evading GST on beauty products

A beauty salon owner has been sentenced to a fine of S\$21,800 or in default 14 weeks' jail for the fraudulent evasion of Goods and Services Tax (GST) on beauty products, worth about S\$270,000, imported between January 2012 and April this year.

Investigations by Singapore Customs revealed that Melati Binte Abu Bakar, 41, the sole proprietor of Melati Pesona Beauty, had under-declared the values of the beauty products in bogus invoices submitted in the applications for 27 import permits.

The under-declaration of the product values resulted in a shortfall GST payment of S\$11,325.99

Melati pleaded guilty on 11 July 2013 to six charges of fraudulent evasion of GST. Another 21 charges were taken into consideration in the sentencing.

Fraudulent evasion of GST on the importation of goods is a serious offence under the Customs Act. Anyone found guilty will be liable to a fine up to 20 times the amount of tax evaded and/or be jailed for up to two years.



Some of the beauty products for which Goods and Services Tax was evaded.