

Rs 15.4 m of heroin seized at the SSR International Airport



The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) in collaboration with the Anti-Drug Smuggling Unit (ADSU) seized approximately 1042g of heroin worth circa Rs. 15,400,000 at the SSR International Airport on 31 December 2023.

A first Ugandan passenger arriving through the flight KQ 274 from Kenya was profiled and targeted for control whilst exiting through the green channel. The passenger was intercepted, questioned and luggage was examined. Nothing incriminating was found.

Subsequently, a body search was carried out and a hard round parcel was felt during the examination of her wig which was stitched to her head. The wig was cut and removed from her head and same was found to contain a circular parcel in black and grey plastic which enclosed a certain quantity of a powdered substance.

A presumptive field test for heroin was carried out and same was positive. Customs K9 Dog Honey was deployed and it reacted positively to the exhibit. Approximately 520g of heroin worth Rs. 7,800,000 were seized during this operation.

Following the detection of the above drug case and based on risk analysis pertaining to similarities in passenger profile, a second passenger who arrived through the flight KQ 270 on 31st December 2023 was targeted for control whilst she was leaving the green channel.

Similarly, a body search was carried out and a hard round parcel was felt during the examination of her wig which was stitched to her head. The wig was cut and removed from her head and same was found to contain a circular parcel in black and grey plastic which enclosed a certain quantity of a powdered substance.

A presumptive field test for heroin was carried out and same was positive. Customs K9 Dog Rulah was deployed and it reacted positively to the exhibit. Approximately 522g of heroin worth Rs. 7,840,500 were seized during this second operation.

Both passengers together with their personal belongings and the exhibits have been handed over to ADSU for further inquiry.

Members of the public are reminded that they may report suspected drug cases/ illicit activities to the MRA through the MRA Stop Drug Platform (www.mra.mu) or by calling on the Hotline 8958.

MAURITIUS REVENUE AUTHORITY

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