

ILLEGAL EXPORTATION

SEIZURE OF 250 LIVE BIRDS AT SSR AIRPORT



On Sunday 10 June 2018, a passenger travelling to Reunion Island was intercepted with 250 live birds in his luggage at the SSR International Airport.

The luggage of the passenger, a resident of Pointe aux Sables, was scanned by Airports of Mauritius Limited (AML) staff prior to his embarkation on the Flight UU 131. The scanned images were suspicious. AML informed the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) Customs Department about the doubtful image and the luggage was opened in the presence of the Mauritian passenger.

250 live birds known as ‘Serin Soufler’ were stacked in two bird cages in the luggage of the male passenger and, upon questioning, he replied that the birds were ordered by his friend residing in Reunion Island. He further added that he would be paid EUR 2000 for the birds. The traveller and the live birds were handed over to Airport Police for further inquiry.

Members of the public may report suspected drug/ illicit activities to the MRA through the Stop Drug platform or by calling on 8958.