

## PRESS RELEASE

## **BORDER PROTECTION:**

## SEIZURE OF 141.2 KG OF DRUGS WORTH RS. 519 MILLION DESTINED TO MAURITIUS









80.2 kg of Cannabis worth Rs. 48.1M, 35.5 kg of Hashish worth Rs. 88.8M and 25.5 kg of Heroin worth Rs. 382.7M were seized by Malagasy Customs on Thursday 07 June 2018 in Madagascar, following intelligence shared by the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) Customs Department to its Malagasy and Reunion Island counterparts.

Three Mauritians aged 44, 38 and 22 years and residing at Baie du Tombeau, Plaine Verte and Roche Bois respectively were arrested by Malagasy Customs in Tamatave, Madagascar. The travel of the three persons was closely monitored by the three Customs Authorities since March 2018. The suspects were transporting the powdered heroin, hashish and compressed cannabis leaves in raffia bags and, according to intelligence, they were heading to Nosy Be to ship the drugs to Mauritius.

This record seizure is the result of a joint collaboration operation involving MRA, Malagasy and French (Reunion Island) Customs Departments and this was achieved following several months of surveillance.

The Malagasy media have highlighted the close collaboration among the Customs Authorities in the region in the fight against drug trafficking.

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

**MAURITIUS REVENUE AUTHORITY** 

08 June 2018