

MRA seizes cannabis worth Rs 59Million



The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) seized 49.52 Kg (Gross Weight) of cannabis with a market value of Rs 59,424,000 on 08 December 2024 at the SSR International Airport.

The passengers arriving by British Airways Flight BA 2065 from London Gatwick, were intercepted by the Customs Anti-Narcotics Section (CANS), based on established risk profiles, while they were leaving the airport through the Green Channel.

The luggage of both passengers was scanned by the Customs Officers and the images were found to be abnormal and suspicious. Both passengers were then directed to the examination counter for the verification of their luggage. They were asked to open their respective luggage, to which they replied as not having the code for same and that they also did not have the keys for the locks of the luggage. They claimed that they had been given the luggage by someone at the London Airport.

However, the tags of the luggage bore the name of each of the passengers, respectively. The officers then proceeded to break open the padlock of the registered suitcases to start verification.

Upon examination, both suitcases of one passenger were found to conceal a total of 60 parcels with a significant amount of compressed leaf matter suspected to be dangerous drugs.

The luggage of the second passenger was found to conceal 30 parcels with a significant amount of compressed leaf matter suspected to be dangerous drugs.

Subsequently, one sachet from each luggage was cut opened and a presumptive field test for cannabis was carried out and same revealed to be positive.

K9 sniffer dog “*Ruby*” was deployed on the exhibit and it reacted positively.

A body search was also carried out on both passengers with their consent. Nothing abnormal was found.

The passengers, along with their personal belongings and exhibits, were handed over to the Anti Drug and Smuggling Unit (ADSU) for further enquiry.



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.