

SEIZURE OF CANNABIS WORTH RS 2.7M AT SSR AIRPORT



4.51 kg of cannabis worth Rs. 2.7 M was seized by the officers of the Customs Anti-Narcotics Section (CANS) of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) on Monday 28 May 2018 at the SSR International Airport. The parcel arrived on board Air Mauritius flight MK 844 from Cape Town.

The passenger, a Mauritian aged 44 years old, residing at Beau Vallon and driver by profession, was targeted by CANS officers in the Green Channel based on risk profiles previously issued by the Customs Intelligence Unit. Upon scanning and examination of his luggage, the CANS Officers found three chocolate cakes in a trolley bag which aroused their suspicion. The passenger was questioned about the cakes and he replied that he purchased three cakes as gifts for his mother and cousins. The cakes were bought in a pastry shop back in Cape Town and strangely, upon questioning, he explained that he had not tasted them but chose them merely on appearance.

The cakes were probed and found to contain a plastic sheet under the chocolate layer on top of them. Some were cut open and each was found to contain a plastic bag containing greenish leaf matter suspected to be cannabis. Customs Narcotics Sniffer Dog 'Milo' was deployed and reacted positively on a sample of the cake.

The passenger was arrested and the case has been handed over to ADSU for enquiry. Two ladies and one man who accompanied the suspect to Cape Town have equally been arrested in connection with this case. Inquiry is still ongoing for other leads.

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.