

## U.S COUPLE ARRESTED WITH CANNABIS WORTH RS 58 MILLION AT SSR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



The Customs Anti-Narcotics Section (CANS) of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) seized 48 kg of Cannabis with a market value of Rs 58,020,000 on 01 March 2025, at the Sir Seewoosagar Ramgoolam (SSR) International Airport.

A male passenger identified as photographer and director of films from California, and a female passenger, photographer and salesgirl, also from California, arrived on Emirates flight EK703 from New York via Dubai. The two passengers had two pieces of luggage and one piece of luggage, respectively. MRA Customs officers, acting on intelligence gathered through a stringent profiling exercise, selected the couple for inspection while they were leaving Customs through the Green Channel. Scanning of their luggage revealed abnormalities, leading the officers to conduct a thorough search. The passengers were reluctant to open their luggage. MRA Customs insisted to have them opened.

Upon examination, one plastic vacuum packed sachet were found on each side of each luggage, sealed with clothes. Both vacuum packed plastic sachets were cut opened. They were found to contain 90 packets of compressed dried leaf matter suspected to be cannabis, wrapped inside clothes. The seizure weighed around of 48 kg.

A presumptive field test for cannabis was carried out and same revealed to be positive. K9 sniffer dogs “Oscar” and “Scarlet” were deployed on the exhibits and they reacted positively. Upon interrogation on the origin of the three suitcases, both passengers stated that somebody gave them the 3 suitcases at the airport in New York to bring them to Mauritius.

Both individuals were promptly arrested by ADSU officers. ADSU has conducted a controlled delivery operation.

A full police enquiry is underway.

**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](http://www.mra.mu)) or by calling on the Hotline 8958.**