

## HEROIN WORTH Rs. 43M SEIZED AT SSR AIRPORT



Heroin hidden inside boots



Heroin found inside bag in attendant's locker

Two ramp attendants of Air Mauritius were arrested on Thursday 09 January, 2020 by the Customs Anti-Narcotics Section (CANS) of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) while they were attempting to remove drugs from the SSR International Airport. Based on information received from overseas sources, surveillance was carried out at the airport and it resulted in the seizure of 2.87 kg of heroin worth Rs. 43 million. The drugs arrived on board flight Turkish Airlines TK 161 from Madagascar.

After a search exercise on a ramp attendant, a plastic package wrapped in cello tape was secured from his boots and 730 grams of heroin was found therein. Two additional packages weighing 1440 grams were found in the said attendant's bag, which was kept in his locker in the Air Mauritius Attendant's Mess.

After further interrogation, the attendant revealed that a fourth package was still in the hold of the aircraft and after consultation with the Turkish Airlines representatives to delay the flight, the package was secured. Another ramp attendant of Air Mauritius, who colluded in this matter, was also intercepted.

The attendants were handed over to the Anti-Drug and Smuggling Unit (ADSU) for further investigation.



**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.**