

Hong Kong Customs detects one dangerous drugs internal concealment case involving passengers at airport (with photo)

Hong Kong Customs on February 8 detected one dangerous drugs internal concealment case involving two incoming passengers at Hong Kong International Airport and seized a total of about 890 grams of suspected cocaine with an estimated market value of about \$720,000.

Customs officers on that day intercepted a male passenger and a female passenger, both aged 32, arriving in Hong Kong from Budapest, Hungary, via Paris, France, and Zurich, Switzerland. During Customs clearance, Customs officers suspected that the passengers had dangerous drugs concealed inside their body cavities. They were then escorted to the hospital for examination. Upon examination, doctors confirmed that foreign objects were concealed inside their body cavities, and they were arrested immediately. As at 4pm today (February 10), the arrested persons have discharged a total of 85 pellets of suspected cocaine weighing about 890g in total.

The arrested persons have been charged with one count of trafficking in a dangerous drug respectively. The case will be brought up at the West Kowloon Magistrates' Courts tomorrow (February 11).

Customs will continue to apply a risk assessment approach and focus on selecting passengers from high-risk regions for clearance to combat transnational drug trafficking activities.

Under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, trafficking in a dangerous drug is a serious offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$5 million and life imprisonment.

Members of the public may report any suspected drug trafficking activities to Customs' 24-hour hotline 182 8080 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk) or online form (eform.cefs.gov.hk/form/ced002).

