

Hong Kong Customs detects first drug trafficking case involving self-service container yard and seizes suspected methamphetamine worth about \$32 million (with photos)

Hong Kong Customs seized about 51.5 kilograms of suspected methamphetamine with an estimated market value of about \$32 million in Yuen Long on February 18. This is the first drug trafficking case detected by Customs involving a self-service container yard.

Customs officers on that day inspected a seaborne consignment, declared as carrying baby car seats, that arrived in Hong Kong from Cambodia at a container yard in Yuen Long. Upon examination, the batch of suspected methamphetamine was found concealed inside the false compartments of 32 baby car seats.

Customs' investigations revealed that drug trafficking syndicates adopted a circuitous transportation route after the drugs had arrived in Hong Kong and used a self-service container yard at Tsing Yi for temporary storage. After follow-up investigation, Customs officers arrested two men, aged 22 and 33, suspected to be in connection with the case in Kwun Tong and Chai Wan on March 7 and yesterday (March 8) respectively.

Investigation is ongoing.

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.

Customs reminds members of the public to stay alert and not to participate in drug trafficking activities for monetary return. They must not accept hiring or delegation from another party to carry controlled items into and out of Hong Kong. They are also reminded not to carry unknown items for other people, nor to release their personal data or home address to others for receiving parcels or goods.

Members of the public may report any suspected drug trafficking activities to Customs' 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk).

