

Hong Kong Customs seizes suspected ketamine (with photo)

Hong Kong Customs seized a total of 6 kilograms of suspected ketamine with an estimated market value of about \$2.87 million at the Hong Kong International Airport and Sheung Wan on February 11.

Customs officers inspected a parcel arriving in Hong Kong from Germany at the Hong Kong International Airport on February 11 and seized about 3 kilograms of suspected ketamine concealed inside cakes. After follow-up investigation, Customs officers arrested two men, aged 47 and 17, suspected to be in connection with the case in Kwun Tong and Kwai Chung respectively on February 13. Customs officers escorted the 17-year-old man to a residential premises in Kwai Chung where a batch of drug packaging paraphernalia were further seized.

Also, Customs officers inspected a parcel arriving in Hong Kong from Germany on February 11 in Sheung Wan and seized 3 kilograms of suspected ketamine concealed inside cakes. After follow-up investigation, Customs officers arrested a 19-year-old man and a 21-year-old man suspected to be in connection with the case in Happy Valley on February 13. Customs officers escorted the 19-year-old man to a residential premises nearby where a small amount of suspected cannabis, a batch of drug-inhaling apparatus and drug packaging paraphernalia were further seized.

Investigations are ongoing. The 47-year-old man and 21-year-old man have been released on bail pending further investigation. The 17-year-old man was charged with one count of trafficking in a dangerous drug and the 19-year-old man was charged with one count of trafficking in a dangerous drug, one count of possession in a dangerous drug and one count of possession of apparatus fit and intended for the smoking of a dangerous drug. They will appear respectively at Kowloon City Magistrates Courts and Eastern Magistrates' Courts tomorrow (February 16).

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 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk).

