



02 JULY 2018

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**BANGKOK:** Thai narcotics police stopped a lorry heading to Sungai Golok in Narathiwat near the Thai-Malaysian border and seized 300kg of ganja that was destined for Malaysia.

The lorry was stopped at a security checkpoint in Chumphon, southern Thailand, about 8pm (local time) two days ago and the Thai driver, who was paid for transporting the drug, was arrested.

"The driver's reaction at the checkpoint raised alarm among officers manning the checkpoint, who searched the lorry and found the drugs hidden among sacks containing manure," Lt-Gen Sommai Kongvisaisuk, head of Narcotics Suppression Board, said here yesterday.

From Malaysia, the ganja would probably be distributed to other countries, he said.

According to Sommai, the authorities would also issue arrest warrants on a Thai man and a woman suspected to be linked with the case.

Over the past week, the board had intercepted shipments of more than a tonne of ganja, he said, adding that the large amount of seizure showed a surge in demand due to growing number of countries legalising the use of the drug.

— Bernama