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KLIA Customs thwart 8 attempts to smuggle drugs worth RM3.6m from March 15

PUTRAJAYA: Hiding drugs in portable fitness tools is the latest modus operandi to smuggle drugs detected at the KL International Airport (KLIA).

KLIA Customs director Datuk Chik Omar Chik Lim said the modus operandi was used by one of the six foreigners arrested between March 15 and yesterday for attempting to smuggle in a total of 39.8kg of drugs amounting to RM3.6 million.

He said in the latest incident on April 4, a 29-year-old man from India was picked up after the Customs officials found 10.55kg of ketamine worth RM369,250 hidden in the portable fitness tools he was carrying.

The man had worked as a cook in Sabah and this was the third time he entered the country, Chik Omar told a press conference here today.

He said the Customs had also arrested a Nepalese woman upon arrival at the Low Cost Carrier Terminal (LCCT) for carrying 2.68kg of methamphetamine worth RM509,200 in her luggage.

The 38-year-old woman was nabbed at the Customs control area at 11.30pm the same day, he said.

Chik Omar said the following day, another man from India, aged 30, was nabbed in a hotel in country's capital after 5.05kg of amphetamine worth RM959,000 were found in a luggage which arrived at KLIA and addressed to him.

Besides, he said they also managed to seize 0.41kg of methamphetamine worth RM77,900 found hidden in four pairs of women's shoes sent through a parcel at the KLIA Mail and Courier Centre on April 2.

"On March 30, we also found a box containing a pack of crystal ketamine weighing one kilogramme and worth RM35,000, which was sent using the same modus operandi at the centre," he said.

Chik Omar said around 3.30pm on March 16, they also found a parcel containing three tins of methamphetamine powder worth RM722,000 at the centre.

On March 20, a man from India was nabbed with 14.05kg of ketamine worth RM491,750 found hidden in his luggage.

He said the Customs had also arrested a 29-year-old man and his 35-year-old sister and seized 2.26kg of methamphetamine worth RM429,400 in their baggage.

Chik Omar said between January and April this year, KLIA Customs had thwarted 22 attempts to smuggle drugs worth RM16.2 million. -- BERNAMA



KLIA Customs director Datuk Chik Omar Chik Lim (centre) with KLIA Customs Enforcement Division chief Zahari Abdullah (left) and KLIA Customs Assistant Director Sazali Unus (right) look at the drugs hidden in a portable fitness tool. -- NSTP/Ahmad Irham Mohd Noor.

Read more: [KLIA Customs thwart 8 attempts to smuggle drugs worth RM3.6m from March 15 - General - New Straits Times](http://www.nst.com.my/nation/general/klia-customs-thwart-8-attempts-to-smuggle-drugs-worth-rm3-6m-from-march-15-1.252750#ixzz2VsfNhay8)
<http://www.nst.com.my/nation/general/klia-customs-thwart-8-attempts-to-smuggle-drugs-worth-rm3-6m-from-march-15-1.252750#ixzz2VsfNhay8>