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RM1m 'chocolate' cocaine bust at KLIA

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KUALA LUMPUR — Federal police crippled an international drug smuggling syndicate with the arrest of a foreigner and seizure of cocaine in chocolate wrappings worth about RM1 million on Friday.

Investigators believe the seizure, the first this year, was destined for neighbouring countries.

Federal police Special Tactical Intelligence Narcotics Group deputy commander Senior Assistant Commissioner Arjunaidi Mohamed said the syndicate, whose members were from Nigeria, had planned to use the country as a cocaine transit hub.

He attributed the success to cooperation between the police and their counterparts in Togo, West Africa.

Arjunaidi told a press conference in Bukit Aman yesterday the 22-year-old suspect boarded a flight from Togo and arrived at KL International Airport at about 6pm on Friday.

At the arrival hall, authorities approached the suspect and found six

chocolate tins in his carry-on luggage.

On searching the tins, police seized 3.8kg of cocaine.

Also present at the media conference were Selangor Narcotics Criminal Investigations Department chief ACP Amarjit Singh.

MALAYSIA'S DRUG WAR (Jan-April)

ARRESTS: 69,472 (locals 66,651, foreigners 2,821)
SUSPECTED DRUG PUSHERS: 9,491
NABBED FOR POSSESSION: 21,444
TESTED POSITIVE FOR DRUGS: 38,537

SEIZURES

GANJA: 473.5 kg
SYABU: 436.9kg
HEROIN: 197.9kg
KETAMINE: 88.7kg
PSYCHOTROPIC AND METHAMPHETAMINE PILLS:
Erimine 5 (2,590,448); Ecstasy (95,488), yaba (755,242)

VALUE OF SEIZURES: RM95.68 million
ASSETS SEIZED: RM49.2 million



(From left) Investigating officer Inspector Muhammad Fitri Shamsudin, Arjunaidi and Amarjit show the cocaine seizure at the press conference yesterday. — Picture by Ahmad Zamzahuri