

Dubai Police seize over 450 kilogrammes of hashish

The drugs were seized while it was on its way to another neighboring Arab country

- By Siham Al Najami, Staff Reporter
- Published: 16:44 June 30, 2010

Dubai: An international drug smuggling operation involving more than 450kg of hashish was recently foiled by Dubai Police.

The largest drugs smuggling operation to date this year involved a gang who was attempting to smuggle 457kg of hashish from the Omani border to another neighbouring Gulf country.

Tip-off

The General Department of the Combating Narcotics Department of Dubai Police acted on a tip-off on the arrival of the shipment through the Oman border. Instead of making the arrests at the border crossing the police decided to shadow the gang to gather more information.

"We didn't intercept the movement of the truck when it entered the country through the Omani-UAE border gate, Al Wujaja. We monitored the truck and the suspects for few days before arresting the suspects on June 12," said Major General Khamis Mattar Al Mazeina, Deputy Chief of Dubai Police.

The drugs were seized while they were on their way to another neighbouring Gulf country, he said.

The drugs were packed into specialised brand packages and placed in suitcases. The items were stored in a large white truck.

The truck was seized while it was on Emirates Road heading toward Abu Dhabi. The approximate street value for every 1kg of hashish amounted to Dh7,000. The amount carried by the suspects amounted to over Dh3 million.

Arrests

The Arab driver of the truck was arrested followed by the remaining three Arab suspects, said Maj Gen Al Mazeina.

Two remaining suspects, who were involved in planning the operation, are still at large in two different Arab countries — one of which is a Gulf country. Dubai Police are currently coordinating with these countries for their arrest.

Some of the suspects are residents and some are visitors, said Maj Gen Abdul Jalal Al Mahdi, Director of the General Department for Combating Narcotics of Dubai Police.

"Our land borders strictly inspect passengers, packages, and vehicles. But from time to time it happens that drugs get through especially by highly skilled drug smugglers. Our efforts, technology, officers' skills, and sources help us to control these operations," said Maj Gen Al Mazeina.

Recently an Asian suspect was arrested for smuggling and possessing 31,000 capsules of the stimulant captagon.

Contact

Toll free number for the General Department of Combating Narcotics of Dubai Police
800 400 400

© Gulf News 2010