

Press Note – DRI seizes 4.7kgs of Methaqualone worth Rs.2.35 Croresconcealed in carton box at NSCBI Airport Kolkata – Consignment destined for Malaysia



Input was gathered by Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) about a parcel which had arrived at Howrah Railway Station from Chennai by the Chennai-Howrah Mail. The parcel was meant for further movement to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia via NSCBI Airport that night on board an Air Asia flight. This input was further developed and detailed description of the parcel and the receiver of the parcel at Kolkata were gathered.

Acting on the same, DRI officers intercepted two persons from Tamil Nadu near the International Departure gate of NSCBI Airport Kolkata along with their luggage, which included the parcel - a big corrugated carton box, just as they were about to enter the Airport. One of the persons had collected the parcel from Howrah station earlier that morning (25th June) and had come to hand it over to the second person who would then fly to Kuala Lumpur by Air Asia flight AK-62 later that night.

On examination of the contents of the parcel, women's churidars were found packed inside. However, the sides of the carton box appeared to be thicker than usual. On careful examination, **two flat packages of rectangular black PVC hard sheets covered with brown plastic tape were found ingeniously concealed along the width of the carton box.** Each of these sheets contained four plastic packets containing a white powdery substance. A total of eight plastic packets were found in all. On preliminary testing the white substance was found to be "**Methaqualone**", a psychotropic substance falling under NDPS Act. The total weight of the powder was found to be approximately **4.7kgs and having a market value of around Rs.2.35 Crores.** The two persons have been arrested under the provisions of the Customs Act read with the NDPS Act and the contraband has been seized as well. The arrested persons have been produced before the Barasat Court on 26th June 2018.