



13 SEP, 2024

Labuan Customs seizes RM1.1m vehicles, fags

Daily Express (KK), Malaysia



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LABUAN: The Royal Malaysian Customs Department Labuan seized contraband goods and vehicles valued at RM1,122,217.33, including unpaid taxes, in a large-scale operation last month (August).

The five-day operation, which took place from Aug 26-30, marked the second largest seizure of the year, following a RM3.08 million seizure in June.

Labuan Customs Director Aspalila Awang Tuah said the recent operation, codenamed "Op Radu", focused on tracing unpaid duty vehicles that contravened conditions under Item 14 of the Customs Duties (Exemption) Order 2017.

She said seven cases were recorded during the operation, leading to the confiscation of vehicles and unpaid taxes amounting to RM820,000.

"Our team's dedication and intelligence efforts paid off... in just five days, we managed to tackle numerous violations of customs regulations," Aspalila said at a press conference at the Kiamsam Customs Office, Thursday.

Aspalila said the confiscated vehicles included luxury models such as the BMW 320i, Volkswagen EOS 2.0 TSI, Toyota Camry, Toyota Fortuner, Honda HR-V, Honda City and Mitsubishi Pajero Sport 4x4.



Aspalila (centre) showing the luxury vehicles seized.

"These vehicles had been transported out of the duty-free island, known as Kawasan Utama Kastam (KUK), under the Item 14 Customs Duty (Exemption) Order 2017, but failed to return within the stipulated 90-day period," she said.

The case is being investigated under Section 135(1)(d) of the Customs Act 1967.

Additionally, she said, on Aug 27, Labuan customs enforcement officers raided an unnumbered store in Kampung Rancha-Rancha based on intelligence reports, seizing contraband cigarettes and firecrackers.

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Committed

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He said under eighth Prime Minister (Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin), one was resolved namely transfer of control over Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) regulation to the Sarawak Government, while three were resolved under the Ninth Prime Minister (Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob), namely transfer of authority over administration of Sipadan Island and Ligitan Island to the Sabah Government; amendments to Article 1(2) and Article 160(2) of the Federal Constitution; and empowerment regarding licensing and deep-sea fishing to the Sabah and Sarawak Governments.

He said under tenth PM (Anwar), seven were resolved namely the recognition of the Sabah Public Works Department (JKR) and Sarawak JKR as Technical Departments; transfer of control over Gas Supply Regulation; amendment to the LHDN Act 1995 [Act 533] to appoint representatives from Sabah and Sarawak Governments as permanent members of LHDN; administration of the Judiciary in Sabah and Sarawak; special guidelines for the return of reserved land for Federal purposes in Sabah and Sarawak; transfer of control over electricity and Sabah Electricity Sdn Bhd (SESB) from the Federal Government to the Sabah Government; and the proposed amendment to Article 95B regarding adjustments for Sabah and Sarawak concerning Legislative Division, PP.

Fadillah expressed gratitude to all parties involved, especially the leadership of the Federal Government, Sabah Government and Sarawak Government, for their commitment to these matters.

“The Madani Government remains committed to ensuring that the claims under MA63 are resolved promptly for the wellbeing of all Malaysians,” he said.

Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Seri Hajiji Noor and Sarawak Premier Tan Sri Abang Johari Openg also attended the meeting.

- Larry Ralon



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SUMMARIES

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