

CASE STUDY #7: CASH DETECTION AT HAMID KARZAI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

On 5th April 2017, person x arrived at Hamid Karzai International Airport of Kabul, Afghanistan through a direct flight from Indira Gandhi international Airport of Delhi, India.

During x-ray checking of luggage at the airport, the designated custom officer suspects subject's handbag.

Following a physical search, 7 copies of money, wrapped carefully with a newspaper, were recovered from subject's clothes at the bag which hadn't been declared to the Customs Department at Hamid Karzai International Airport.

Later, another passenger who has traveled on the same flight with person x, comes to Customs Office at the airport and states that they are partners as well as the money belongs to both of them.

On physical body searching, two copies of money concealed carefully, had been found at his underwear's pockets.

As a whole, 45000 US Dollars in 9 copies each 5000 USD, were recovered from both suspects on the suspicion of money laundering. The seized cash was placed at Da Afghanistan Bank's custody and the case has been submitted to the competent authorities on the suspicion of money laundering pending for further investigation.

Following a thorough investigation of the case by the Attorney General's Office, no evidence of money laundering was found. However, both suspects, in accordance with Article #8 of Cash Courier Regulation of Afghanistan, were fined 15% of the seized cash equivalent to 457,853 AFN or 6,711.39 US Dollar by the Customs Department for violating the Regulation and accordingly, the remaining cash was returned to the subjects.



SOURCE: Customs Department, Ministry of Finance