

## CASE STUDY #1: CASH DETECTION AT HAMID KARZAI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

On 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016, person x was ticketed on a direct commercial flight from Hamid Karzai International Airport, Kabul, Afghanistan to Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi, India. The subject made no attempt to declare to an Authorized Officer<sup>1</sup> that he was carrying **28,750.00 US Dollars cash**.

According to the procedure<sup>2</sup>, at the departure checkpoint of Hamid Karzai International Airport, the subject was stopped and his bag was searched on suspicion of concealing cash in an amount above the regulatory threshold<sup>3</sup>.

Upon searching the subject at the first customs' checkpoint of the airport, customs officials found an amount of **19,250 USD** concealed in the suspect's shoes, travel bag and trousers as well as **9,500 USD** in his jacket pocket.

In accordance with the regulation and procedure, the Customs Department submitted the case to the Border Police on suspicion of money laundering and the funds were placed in the custody of Da Afghanistan Bank (the Central Bank) pending further investigation. Following a thorough investigation of the case by the Attorney General's Office, no evidence of money laundering was found. However, as per Article #8 of Cash Courier Regulation of Afghanistan, the person was fined **AFN 288,712.00** or **USD 4,310.58** by the Customs Department for breaching the regulation and the seized cash was returned to person x.



This is a good example of the co-operation, increased scrutiny, enforcement, capacity and capability of the authorities at Hamid Karzai International Airport, tasked with preventing and detecting the physical cross border transportation of cash and BNIs, and the continued improvements in the cash declaration system.

**SOURCE:** Customs Department, Ministry of Finance

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<sup>1</sup>According to Cash & BNIs Regulation of Afghanistan, Authorized Officer is the Customs Officer. The competent authority for control of cash movement at borders is the Ministry of Finance.

<sup>2</sup> Declaration forms for Cash & BNIs are issued to passengers who are travelling by air before they pass through a Customs check point or when they arrive at a Customs and will be collected of them by the Customs Officers before they receive their boarding passes. Declaration forms for Cash & BNIs at land borders will be issued to persons travelling by Customs Officers and before entry or exit it will be collected from persons travelling.

<sup>3</sup> The Cash & BNIs Regulation of Afghanistan was adopted based on the Article #7 of the Anti-Money Laundering and Proceeds of Crime Law. The Regulation was issued and came into enforcement on 16/ 11/ 1393 (05-Feb-2015).