

MEDIA RELEASE

Director of DL Logistic Enterprise fined \$5,000 for illegal import of fresh vegetables

Tanggaturai A/L Palakastin, the director of DL Logistic Enterprise, was fined \$5,000 by the Court on 31 July 2023 for illegally importing fresh vegetables for sale.

2 On 27 July 2023, the Singapore Food Agency (SFA) conducted a targeted operation on a Malaysian lorry transporting fresh produce to Pasir Panjang Wholesale Centre. Tanggaturai was the lorry driver. The lorry was found to contain approximately 340kg of undeclared vegetables. All illegal consignments were seized. DL Logistic Enterprise transports vegetables from Malaysia to Singapore on behalf of licensed importers, and the company does not have a valid vegetable import licence.



The illegally imported produce seized by SFA included caixin and kangkong (Photo: SFA)

3 In Singapore, food imports must meet SFA's requirements. Fruits and vegetables can only be imported by licensed importers, and every consignment must be declared and accompanied with a valid import permit. Illegally imported vegetables are of unknown sources and can pose a food safety risk (e.g. if unregulated or high

MEDIA RELEASE

level of pesticides are used). The long-term ingestion of excessive pesticide residues through the consumption of vegetables that have been subjected to pesticide abuse could lead to adverse health effects.

4 Offenders who illegally import fresh fruits and vegetables shall be liable on conviction to a maximum fine of \$10,000 and/or imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years.

Issued by the Singapore Food Agency

3 August 2023