

**TSYT Pte Ltd and its Director fined \$4,250 and \$4,250 respectively  
for illegal import of fresh vegetables**

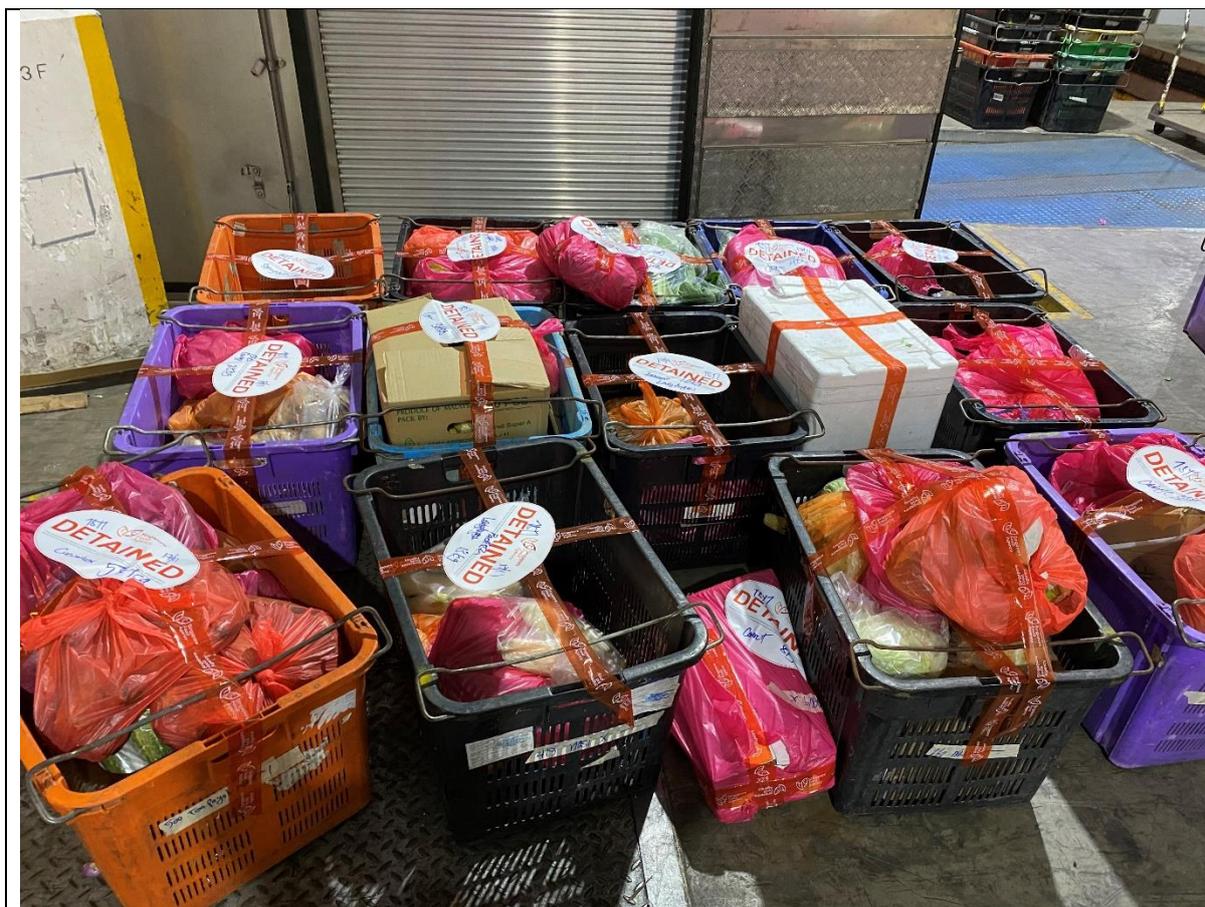
TSYT Pte Ltd, an importer of food products, was fined \$4,250 by the Court today for illegally importing fresh vegetables for sale. Its Director, Lee Yew Lim, was also fined \$4,250 for failing to prevent the offence from being committed.

2 On 17 November 2020, in a joint operation conducted by the Singapore Food Agency (SFA) and Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA), a truck carrying food produce consigned to TSYT Pte Ltd was detained by ICA officers at Woodlands Command. The case was then referred to SFA for follow-up investigation.

3 SFA's investigations found that the said company illegally imported approximately 436.2kg of undeclared and under-declared fresh vegetables in the consignments imported from Malaysia. The illegal consignments were seized.



*Image 1: Approximately 436.2kg of undeclared and under-declared fresh vegetables were seized by SFA  
(Photo: SFA)*



*Image 2: Illegal consignments seized by SFA  
(Photo: SFA)*

4 In Singapore, food imports must meet SFA's requirements. Food 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 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.

5 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.

6 Safeguarding Singapore's borders remains top priority for ICA. Similar methods may also be used by terrorists to smuggle security items into Singapore. ICA will continue to conduct security checks to detect and deter illegal importation attempts so as to keep Singapore safe. SFA will continue to safeguard food safety through our integrate food safety system, which includes strict import regulations and enforcement, and work closely with border control agencies to deter illegal import across our borders.