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Five Hongkongers arrested in HK\$104 million Philippines crystal meth crackdown

Anti-narcotics operatives seized vast quantities of the drug from a kitchen lab in Manila

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Five Hongkongers arrested in Manila amid the seizure of more than 720 million pesos (HK\$104 million) worth of crystal meth

Danny Mok (/danny-mok)

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Anti-narcotics operatives from the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) raided a kitchen-style drug laboratory, which was regarded as one of the biggest of its kind, in a high-end condominium in Pasay City in Manila on Tuesday night, the

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South China Morning Post agency/ said.
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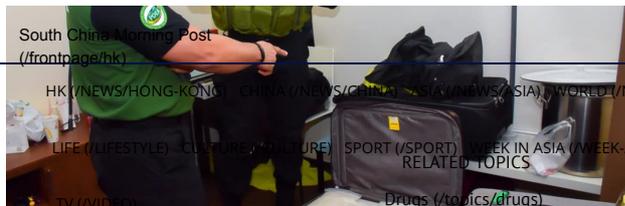
The operatives seized a total of 727 million pesos (US\$13.6 million) worth of the drug, also known as "ice", which they believed was intended for local use.

The agency said it arrested five Hongkongers, two of whom were chemists.

Asylum seeker caught with crystal meth worth HK\$1 million by Hong Kong customs officers (https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/hong-kong-law-and-crime/article/2160859/asylum-seeker-caught-crystal-meth-worth-hk1) →

Local media reported that authorities arrested the suspects, aged 35 to 56, in separate operations in Parañaque and Manila on Tuesday and raided the drug lab where at least 80kg of crystal meth, as well as chemicals and equipment believed to be used in the manufacturing, was seized.





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Other stashes of the drug were found in another two operations. The seizures weighed 107kg in total.

PDEA spokesperson Derrick Carreon told reporters that the laboratory could produce at least 40kg to 50kg of illegal drugs a week.

More than HK\$1 million worth of crystal meth and cocaine seized in two Hong Kong drug raids (https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/hong-kong-law-and-crime/article/2151611/more-hk1-million-crystal-meth-and-cocaine) →

PDEA chief Aaron Aquino said that the suspects were members of the Hong Kong-based triad 14K, an international drug syndicate that operates in Hong Kong and mainland China.

He said it took his agency four months to conduct the operations in partnership with China and Hong Kong.



