

09 NOVEMBER 2017

Cops: 17% increase in drug cases in Perak this year

Thursday, 9 Nov 2017

6:22 PM MYT

BY **IVAN LOH**



Perak Narcotics chief Asst Comm R. Ravi Chandran showing a packet of heroin that was seized in Bandar Seri Iskandar.

IPOH: Police have recorded a 17% increase in the number of people involved with drugs in the state this year.

Between January and October 2017, police have arrested 6,802 people compared with 5,812 within the same period last year.

Of the 6,802, some 2,072 were drug traffickers while 4,730 are drug users.

Perak narcotics chief Asst Comm R. Ravi Chandran said the police arrested 1,907 drug traffickers and 3,905 drug users in 2016.

"Drug cases in Perak are at a worrying condition but it is still under control.

"We are always conducting pro-active enforcement to combat the menace from becoming more rampant," he told a press conference at the state police contingent headquarters here on Thursday.

ACP Ravi Chandran said the amount of synthetic drugs seized has also increased.

"In 2016, we seized some 49.6kg of syabu and this year, we've seized about 85.3kg.

"The total number of Ecstasy and Eramin 5 pills seized have also increased from 255 to 2,510 and 1,241 to 20,692 respectively," he said, adding that the number of Yaba pills have also increased from 2,790 to 180,383.

"For traditional drugs, we have seized some 76.9kg of ganja compared to just 19.6kg last year," he added.

He also said the total value of the seized drugs have increased by almost seven fold.

"In 2016, the total value seized was about RM1.3mil, and for this year, the value is about RM9.5mil," he added.

Separately, ACP Ravi Chandran said the police have arrested a car washer and his wife and seized 1.8kg of heroin in their car in Bandar Seri Iskandar on Tuesday (Nov 7) at about 9.15pm.

He said the man, 42, and his 39-year-old wife, were caught in front of a shophouse.

"We found the drugs, with a street value of about RM45,400, stashed at the front passenger seat of the car.

"We believe they were about to do a delivery to clients," he said.

"Both suspects tested negative for drug abuse and do not have any criminal records," he added.

ACP Ravi Chandran said both would be remanded until next Tuesday (Nov 14) for investigation under Section 39B of the Dangerous Drugs Act, which carries the mandatory death sentence.

"They have been active in Perak Tengah for about a year and we have been tracking them for six months.

"We are investigating whether there are there any more accomplices or syndicates that are linked to them," he said.