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Raids in three states lead to RM8m drug haul

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PETALING JAYA — Police crippled drug distribution syndicates with the arrests of more than 20 suspected traffickers, including foreigners, the discovery of a processing laboratory and seizure of drugs worth more than RM8 million in separate raids.

In Melaka, police seized 52kg of syabu (methamphetamine) concealed in tea bags from an ice storage box during separate raids in Malim over the weekend.

The seizure of the drugs worth about RM3.7 million also saw police arrest five men and three women, aged between 20 and 31.

Besides the syabu, 33gm of ketamine and an ecstasy tablet were also found at one of the homes during the raids which were conducted between 2.30am and 6.30pm on Saturday.

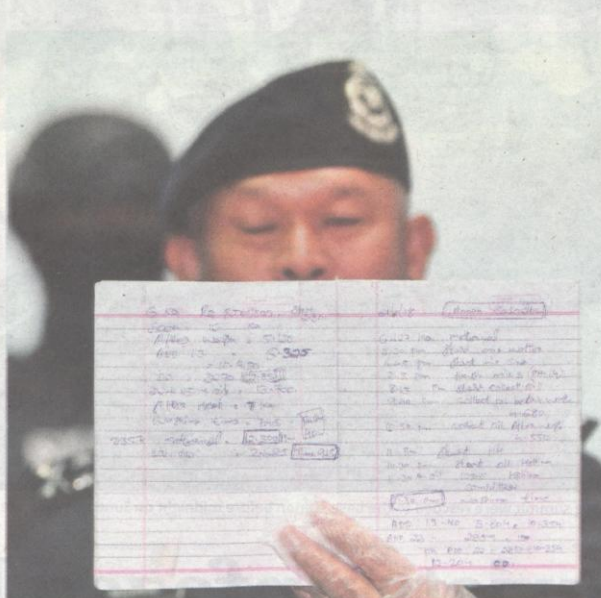
Federal Narcotics Investigations director Datuk Seri Mohamad Salleh said the drugs were found in an ice storage box.

"The syabu was concealed in tea packets to avoid detection and was estimated to be able to satisfy the needs of about 260,000 addicts," he said yesterday.

Also present were Narcotics deputy director Datuk Kang Chez Chiang and Melaka police chief Datuk Abdul Jalil Hassan.

Mohamad Salleh said the police also seized two cars and a motorcycle, as well as cash and jewellery worth more than RM10,000.

He said initial investigations revealed the syabu could be sold at RM70,000 per kg.



Police with a 'recipe book' seized during one of the raids in Rembau. — Picture by Bernama

"Four of the eight suspects have previous criminal records and tested positive for drugs," he added.

The suspects have been remanded

for a week under Section 39B of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1952 which carries the mandatory death sentence upon conviction.

Earlier in Rembau, Mohamad Salleh said six raids carried out in Selangor and Negri Sembilan since last Tuesday led police to uncover a syabu processing laboratory in a cow farm.

Mohamad Salleh said some of the 16 nabbed were found to be members of the notorious Geng 36.

Police stormed the farm in Kampung Kundur Tengah, Pedas, where five men, including three Indian nationals, were arrested.

A search led police to the discovery of a syabu processing laboratory where they seized 84kg of liquid ingredients which could produce 33.6kg of high-grade syabu.

In a follow-up operation, police nabbed a man in Bandar Teknologi Kajang and seized 71.1kg of powdery substance believed to be drugs, 148.5kg liquid meth, 105kg of drugs in compressed slab form and various drug-producing paraphernalia.

A third raid in the same vicinity led to the arrests of three men.

Mohamad Salleh said the raids which ended on Wednesday, saw additional arrests carried out at Taman Sungai Jelok, Kajang and a couple in Taman Raintree, Batu Caves.

In the sixth raid, police also seized 26.52 kg of syabu in Taman Cempaka, Ampang. However, no arrests were made.

He added police also foiled another drug-trafficking attempt in Shah Alam, where they detained three men and a woman with the seizure of 47.3kg of cannabis. — Bernama