



02 JULY 2018

MCPD : Number of below-40 drug addicts is disturbing

MCPF: Number of below-40 drug addicts is disturbing

PETALING JAYA: The Malaysia Crime Prevention Foundation (MCPF) has expressed concern over the vast number of drug abusers in the country aged 40 and below.

Its senior vice-chairman Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye pointed out that drug abuse was most common among those aged between 19 and 39.

"They make up 72% of the total

drug addicts in the country," he said yesterday.

Citing figures from the National Anti-Drugs Agency, Lee said that between January and May, the agency found 180 drug addicts, aged between 13 and 18.

Another 6,671 addicts were aged between 19 and 39, and 2,240 aged 40 and above.

"The drug abuse trend among Malaysians is worrying," he said.

He also noted that the agency recorded 6,435 new drug users within the same period.

"On repeated offenders, the agency identified 2,656 this year compared to 3,332 the year before, which is a decline of 20.3%.

"From January to May, the num-

ber of drug users dropped 19.6% compared to last year," he said.

The agency also found methamphetamine addiction to be the highest among the 3,712 cases recorded during the period.

Lee also added that prevention was the most vital step in fighting drug problems.

"It must start at an early age,

even from the preschool level," he said.

"Although the involvement of students in drug problems is low compared to the other categories, we should not take it lightly.

"All stakeholders, including schools, must play their role and take the necessary measures to curb the problem."