

31 MEI 2017

'Dr Ganja' smoked out



Tools of his trade: Bukit Aman Narcotics Criminal Investigation Department deputy director DCP Datuk Kang Chez Chiang showing the equipment used to process ingredients such as honey, oil and margarine laced with ganja in Dr Ganja's 'health products' (inset). — Bernama

'Dr Ganja' smoked out

Promoting his own range of cannabis-based 'health products' on social media and selling them from the comfort of his own home, a retired military man found a following. But the law caught up with 'Dr Ganja' who was arrested with his wife and an assistant, and could face the mandatory death penalty. **>See reports on Pages 3 and 4**

Not what the doctor ordered

Ganja dealer's luck runs out after cops sniff out illegal operation of 'medicine man'

KUALA LUMPUR: A retired military man and self-styled "Dr Ganja", who allegedly promoted marijuana-based food products on social media and sold them from his house in Klang, was busted in a police raid.

The 58-year-old was said to have processed the products – which included cakes, oil, honey, margarine, chocolate and milk – in his house in Kampung Delek Dalam.

The products were then promoted on platforms such as Facebook, WeChat and WhatsApp and sold for between RM5 and RM150, depending on the product.

Bukit Aman Narcotics Crime Investigation Department (NCID) deputy director Deputy Comd Dattuk Kang Chez Chiang said the man was arrested along with his 35-year-old Indonesian wife and an assistant, aged 38, during a raid on the house last Friday by a team of NCID and Special Tactical Intelligence Narcotics Group (STING) personnel.

He said the man had garnered a following under his social media moniker of "Dr Ganja" with claims that his products could cure all

sorts of illnesses and by promoting the "benefits" of ganja and hemp seeds.

"Those who believed his claims would go to his house to buy the products," he told a press conference at Bukit Aman police headquarters here yesterday.

He said the man was believed to have learned to process the products from the Internet.

DCP Kang said that aside from selling the products at his home, the man also allowed customers to consume ganja there.

He added that the man claimed his intention was to help people and even gave away products for free to those who could not afford them.

In the raid, police seized various products believed to contain ganja, including four litres of liquid believed to be ganja oil, two litres of margarine in 21 bottles, 70 chocolate bars weighing 1.4kg, 125 litres of honey in 66 bottles, nine bottles of milk, two pieces of cake weighing 400g, as well as 800g of paste.



Weeded out: Some of the products seized such as honey, cakes, oil and margarine on display during a press conference in Bukit Aman. — Bernama

> SEE NEXT PAGE

What is marijuana?

It is a mood-altering drug that can induce calm and is sometimes used medicinally for pain relief.

It is derived from the dried flowering tops, leaves, stems, and seeds of the Cannabis sativa (hemp) plant.

Countries where it is legal

Recreational marijuana is legal in Uruguay, the Netherlands and in the United States, it is legal in eight states and the District of Columbia. Medical marijuana is legal in Canada, Australia, Germany, Argentina, Czech Republic and Italy.

Countries where it is illegal

China, Egypt, France, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Nigeria, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates and Vietnam have the strictest cannabis laws.

Negative effects

Short term: Anxiety, hallucination, distorted sense of time, paranoia.
Long term: Addiction, short term memory, depression, lower testosterone levels, increased heart rate, impaired thinking and ability to learn.

Sources: WebMD.com & drugfreeworld.org

©The Star Graphics



Self-styled Dr Ganja is visible online

PETALING JAYA: Calling himself a "caregiver", the self-styled Dr Ganja often posted on Facebook extolling the "health benefits" of ganja and that his products could "cure" chronic diseases.

Posting pictures of his products – chocolate brownies, cakes and chocolates laced with marijuana and hemp oil – he was, however, careful never to disclose the prices.

The pictures on his various social media accounts show him smoking from a bong, his clients, and even children he claimed to have been cured of diseases such as epilepsy, leukaemia and cancer.

There are also at least four videos of him conducting marijuana and cannabis "classes" at his home on YouTube.

He has more than 2,500 followers on his personal Facebook profile and over 3,200 on his Facebook page.

On his LinkedIn profile, he claimed that he had treated over 4,000 patients with chronic diseases.

They would always come to my place to ask for directions.

A resident

directly across the man's house, said the place was surrounded by police that day.

The woman, who declined to be named, said many people came to look for the man to "berubat" (be treated).

"They would always come to my place to ask for directions," she added.

She said the man's adult children stayed in the house after he was taken away by police.

One of his relatives, who runs a food stall by his gate, said they had asked her to keep people away from the house.

"They were traumatised by the incident and are still in shock," she said, adding that she was told by police to leave her stall during the raid.

He also claimed to be the founder of the "Green Care and Cure Club" and to have served as an army officer for 22 years from 1977 to 1999.

In his neighbourhood in Kampung Delek Dalam, Klang, a 25-year-old housewife who only wanted to be known as Ani said that on Friday, she spotted two big lorries outside the house of a man the locals knew as "medicine man".

"There were people in the lorry but they did not look like police officers," she said.

Another resident, who lives

Watch the video
thetartv.com

