

International drug syndicate busted (Updated)

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Federal narcotics crime investigation department director Commissioner Datuk Seri Mokhtar Mohd Shariff (C) showing drugs worth RM159 million that were seized during a press conference at Bukit Aman on Aug 21, 2016.

— Bernama

KUALA LUMPUR: Cooperation between Malaysian police and the Taiwan Bureau of Justice Investigation led to an international drug syndicate being busted about 10pm last Friday with the arrest of six people, including three Taiwanese men, in Bukit Bintang and 42.5kg of crystallised Syabu worth RM3 million seized.

Federal narcotics crime investigation department director Commissioner Datuk Seri Mokhtar Mohd Shariff said the team which also comprised Special Tactical Intelligence Narcotics Group (STING) arrested two men who were seated in a Mercedes Benz at Jalan Bukit Bintang and seized from them a small amount of drugs before they led police to a hotel nearby where they raided four rooms and arrested three more men and a woman with some drugs found in one room.

He added initial investigations revealed that the drugs smuggled into Malaysia from China were meant for both local and foreign markets.

Mokhtar added that on Saturday police seized 120kg of drugs consisting of heroin, syabu and caffeine in seven separate raids held in Shah Alam, Klang and Banting in Selangor.

He added the joint operation between the police and STING also led to the arrest of 14 locals including a teenager linked to an underworld gang.

“The suspects, aged between 17 and 40, were detained between 12.50pm and 4pm on Saturday,” he told a press conference at Bukit Aman police headquarters yesterday.

Mokhtar said police also uncovered two drug processing laboratories when they raided two premises in Klang besides confiscating chemicals, processing equipment, jewellery, RM30,430 in cash and 13 vehicles, including a Mercedes Benz, BMW and Toyota Vellfire, worth about RM1 million.

All suspects are being remanded for five days to facilitate investigations under Section 39B of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1952, which carries the mandatory death penalty upon conviction.

Police have seized 76 firearms and weapons, drugs worth RM159.43 million namely syabu (478.12kg), ketamine (325.13kg), ecstasy pills (148.632), yaba pills (745,915) and Erimin 5 pills (1,778,150) between Jan 1 and Aug 18