

Perak drug distribution ring crippled

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By Sylvia Looi
sylvia@mmail.com.my

IPOH — The state's drug distribution rings were dealt a blow following the arrests of three pushers in two separate operations on Sunday.

Perak police chief Datuk Hasnan Hassan said the first arrest was made at a pub in Manjung where a couple were picked up while the second arrest was in Kerian.

Their arrests came in the wake of concerns by state police on the increase in the number of drug pushers.

"In the first arrest at 2.10am, a 29-year-old woman who works at the pub and a 45-year-old unemployed man led police to 16,000 Eramin 5 pills, 2,100 Ecstasy pills and 446.54g of Ketamine with a total street value of RM333,594.30," said Hasnan.

He said the two had been using the pub as a front to push the drugs to partygoers.

"They have been active for the past three months and investigations revealed they are part of a syndicate," he said.

Hasnan said the pub owner had been hauled up for questioning.

"Both suspects had no prior records and their urine tests returned negative for drugs," he added.

The second arrest saw a 52-year-old carwash operator nabbed at Jalan Merbuk 1 in Parit Buntar at 4pm.

He had 3.2kg of heroin with a street value of RM80,275. The suspect had four previous convictions including drugs.



Hasnan (third from right) with the drug haul from the three arrested pushers. With him are Perak Narcotics Criminal Investigation Department Chief Assistant Commissioner R. Ravi Chandran (left), Inspector Jerry Ak Jik (second left), state deputy Narcotics Investigation Department chief Deputy Superintendent Abdul Latiff Mehat (second right) and Inspector Mohd Ubaidillah Kamarulzaman (right). — Picture by Farhan Najib

"Investigations revealed the heroin was sourced from Penang and was to be sold in Kerian," he said.

"We believe the suspect was part of a six-man syndicate."

The suspects for both arrests have been remanded for seven days to be investigated under Section 39B of the Dangerous Drugs Act that carries the mandatory death sentence.

Hasnan said Perak police had arrested 3,472 people since January to April for various drug offences.

He said RM9.4 million worth of drugs had been seized in Perak this year.

