

Police declares war on online drug syndicates

Posted on 3 March 2016 - 08:32pm

Last updated on 3 March 2016 - 09:00pm

Ashwin Kumar

newsdesk@thesundaily.com



KUALA LUMPUR: In a bid to curtail drug abuse, police are going full swing to nab criminals using online sites as a medium to sell drugs.

Bukit Aman Narcotics Criminal Investigation Department (NCID) director Commissioner Datuk Seri Mohd Mokhtar Mohd Shariff said the modus operandi of the drug syndicates was to create duct-web or in other words creating a website that not everyone can access and communicate on drug trades through it.

He said that this was becoming a trend among drug pushers as they obtain their contacts from overseas.

He added that on Tuesday, police managed to nab and investigate a syndicate under the Prevention of Crime Act (POCA) in Terengganu after they resorted to using online as a medium of transaction for their drug trade.

"If they think they know loopholes, bear in mind that the police will use prevention act and detect these criminals.

"These unscrupulous groups of people should not get any sympathy from the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to fight for human rights, as they are criminals destroying families," he told reporters in a media conference here in Bukit Aman police headquarters today.

Mohd Mokhtar added that in a recent work-visit by Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, police have proposed to tighten foreign student visa applications after the recent spike in the number of foreign students abusing their visas to carry out the drug trade.

It is learnt that last year alone the police had caught 182,780 individuals involved in drug related offenses as compared to 174,426 in 2014.

"The increase in the number clearly shows a worrying trend. Also, in 2015 the total of drugs seized worth RM240 million was recorded," he said.