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Police score major drug seizures

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> RM8.5m worth of narcotics found in KL condo; lab uncovered in Penang

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** Police have seized some RM8.5 million in drugs and detained six people involved with the syndicate, two of whom are Singaporeans, in raids carried out in three states.

Bukit Aman Narcotics Crime Investigation Department (NCID) director Commissioner Datuk Seri Mohd Mokhtar Mohd Shariff said the syndicate was in operation for only a month before the authorities crippled them.

"We seized RM8.5 million in drugs, most of which were stored in a luxury condominium in Damansara Perdana," he said.

Shariff said most of the drugs are believed to have been trafficked into Malaysia from neighbouring countries.

"They were most probably from the Golden Triangle, which is Myanmar, Laos and Thailand," he told a press conference yesterday, adding that the drugs consisted of ketamine, syabu and ecstasy.

Mokhtar said the mastermind of the whole operation was a 58-year-old Singaporean man, who has been on Singapore's wanted list since 2006.

"The mastermind and the other Singaporean, a 43-year-old male were arrested in Kempas, Johor, while the other four Malaysian suspects were arrested in separate locations in Damansara Perdana, Kuala Lumpur city centre, Bangsar and Rawang," he said.

Mokhtar also said police believe the mastermind was travelling between countries using bogus travel documents while the other Singaporean's documents are being vetted for authenticity.

He added that out of the four Malaysians arrested, two had previous criminal records and tested positive for methamphetamine.

"We are still investigating how the drugs were to be exported. The amount seized could have been sold to an estimated 550,000 addicts," he said.

"We worked with Singapore's central narcotic bureau and Indonesia's national narcotics body for the arrests," he said.

Among the drugs seized were 64.17kg of methamphetamine, 61.53kg of ketamine, 23,985 Ecstasy pills and 68 Eramin 5 pills.

Police also seized six vehicles, foreign and local currencies and 11 luxury watches.

Meanwhile, in GEORGE TOWN, police smashed a drug processing syndicate after raiding two premises and seizing RM2.2



Mokhtar (centre) and his officers looking at the seized drugs at Bukit Aman yesterday



Chuah showing the drugs seized from a drug lab in Sungai Pinang and another premises in Butterworth at the press conference yesterday.

million worth of narcotics.

State police chief Datuk Chuah Ghee Lye said the break came after police detained a man a parking lot of a condominium at Tanjung Bungah on Monday at about 9.15pm.

He said information obtained from the 52-year-old led police to a rented house in Lebuh Sungai Pinang where the raiding team uncovered the lab.

Police seized 1.825kg of syabu, 2.64kg of heroin, 5.2 litres of syabu acid, 101.4kg of ephedrine powder, 29.5 litres of acid, 13.8 litres of ethanol, 10.25kg of sodium, 1.8 kg of soda, a litre of chloroform and processing equipment all worth RM1.9 million.

Also seized were RM255,000 in cash, four handbags, two watches, three luxury cars, a silver necklace all with an estimated value of RM626,000.

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