

RM36m syabu seized in drug bust

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KUALA LUMPUR: Police busted a drug syndicate with the arrest of 10 people including a chemist in Shah Alam, Selangor and Hutan Melintang, Perak.

The arrest led the police to two processing laboratories and a warehouse where they seized 239kg of syabu worth RM36 million, chemicals used for processing the drugs, a pistol with live bullets, 150 pills believed to be Erimin 5, cash RM2,839, 324, Indian Rs78,000, jewellery, 12 vehicles, and two motorcycles.

In disclosing this today, Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Khalid Abu Bakar said the suspects aged between 23 and 42 were nabbed in a nine-hour operation which started about 4am on Monday led by the Federal Narcotics Criminal Investigations Department and the Special Tactical Intelligence Narcotics Group (STING) in Shah Alam and Hutan Melintang.

He said a total of seven raids were held of which six were in Shah Alam.

"We are in the midst of investigating whether the syndicate members had used the pistol for other criminal offences," Khalid told reporters at Bukit Aman.

Khalid said their initial investigations revealed that the chemicals were smuggled into the country from India to process the drugs which were believed to be meant for local consumption.

"The chemical was used to process syabu and this was done at a village in Hutan Melintang, before it was brought to the two main laboratories in Shah Alam," he said adding that the seized drugs can be sold to some 12 million syabu addicts.

Between January and April this year, Khalid said, they seized 14 pistols of various types and three bombs used by drug syndicates.

He said they also seized various types of drugs (syabu, ketamine, ecstasy, yaba, erimin 5, ganja and heroine) worth RM65.64 million with the arrest of 63,684 individuals between Jan 1 and April 17 this year.

Talking on Automated Enforcement System (AES) which falls under the Road Transport Department (RTD), Khalid said, police will use the camera for investigations and crime prevention.