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'Cops not scared of arm drug traffickers'



Datuk Seri Mohd Mokhtar Mohd Shariff (right) showing drugs seized by police at the Johor police headquarters yesterday.
PIC BY HAIRUL ANUAR RAHIM

FIREARMS THREAT

'Cops not scared of armed drug traffickers'

JOHOR BARU: More drug traffickers are arming themselves to scare off law enforcement but police are not intimidated. Last year, 36 firearms were seized in drug-related cases.

Federal Narcotics Crime Investigation Department director Datuk Seri Mohd Mokhtar Mohd Shariff said here yesterday that police would step up efforts to curb the menace.

He was commenting on the recovery of 36 bullets and a pistol in the first five days of a nationwide drug operation in the new year.

"Why are they carrying weapons when they are involved in producing and selling illegal drugs? They want to scare the police," he said.

As long as there were drug trafficking syndicates, he said, the police would continue efforts to shut them down.

Mokhtar said a drug processing laboratory and packing centre had been discovered here and in Kulai.

He said the two were among eight premises raided by police in a series of raids in the state and Selangor in the last two days.

Mokhtar said 11 people, nine men and two women aged between 29 and 63, were detained in the swoop.

The group is believed to be part of a syndicate that had been active for several months.

A variety of drugs such as Eramin

5, Ecstasy and heroin worth RM3 million were recovered by a team from the headquarters and state police.

The drugs were believed to be for distribution in Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore.

Drug processing machines, believed to be purchased from Taiwan and China, were seized in one of the raids in Tebrau.

Also seized were luxury cars, including a Lamborghini, a Toyota Harrier, a Nissan Fairlady and a Ford Ranger.

An assortment of jewellery, luxury watches and RM54,346 were also recovered. All items seized were worth an estimated RM2.5 million.