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THE ASSOCIATION OF BANKS IN MALAYSIA

Headline: RM24bil lost to commercial crimes

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# RM24bil lost to commercial crimes

## 25,584 cases reported nationwide in sharp increase since 2015

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** A total of 25,584 commercial crime cases were reported nationwide last year, with losses at a whopping RM23.9bil, according to Bukit Aman.

Bukit Aman Commercial Crime Investigation Department (CCID) acting director Deputy Comm Datuk Saiful Azly Kamaruddin said out of these, 15,007 or 58.6% involved cybercrime.

“This figure shows a sharp increase in terms of losses suffered

by the victims since 2015.

“It is very alarming as many scam cases have been widely reported in the media,” he said at the CCID headquarters yesterday.

The victims were fooled in multiple scams, including the Macau scam, e-commerce fraud, and loan and love scams, DCP Saiful Azly said.

“One of the latest modus operandi we uncovered is the sale of animal vaccine, with scammers targeting veterinarians and livestock farmers.

“The scammers would contact the victim via e-mail to sell a purportedly

good vaccine at a cheaper price for horses.

“The first sale was above board but after the victims banked in the money, the items did not arrive,” he said, adding that 14 cases have been recorded since 2011, resulting in RM207,800 in losses.

Most scam cases were linked to mule bank accounts used by scammers to receive their ill-gotten gains, DCP Saiful Azly said.

“The group of people targeted to become mule account holders are drug addicts, those who have black-listed accounts in the past, those in

need of work, housewives and senior citizens, college students, social workers and those with mental disorders.

“While some of them are willing participants because they are desperate for money, there are also those who are fooled into surrendering their account details to the scammers,” he said.

In the latest operation, a total of 145 mule account holders were detained following a three-week swoop nationwide beginning Dec 10.

“Each of those detained had at least three mule accounts used by

scammers. The accounts were used for various cybercrimes, including Macau Scam, and loan and e-commerce scams.

“The suspects’ mule accounts were used in 663 cases involving RM20.7mil in losses,” he said.

The public should log on to [ccid.rmp.gov.my/semakmule](http://ccid.rmp.gov.my/semakmule) to check if theirs or other accounts were used for fraudulent activities.

Watch the video  
[thestartv.com](http://thestartv.com)

