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Doctor loses RM747,000 in Macau scam

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KOTA KINABALU: A doctor in Tawau district was tricked into believing that he was an identity theft victim, and lost RM747,000 in the process recently.

The man in his 30s first received a call from a so-called personnel from the Health Ministry, saying that his name had been used to get medications at a hospital.

A follow up call from a “police

officer” convinced the victim of this matter.

The caller also alleged that his name was linked to a money laundering and drug smuggling case.

Fearing the worst, the victim gladly produced his other identification and banking information when the caller requested for the items for rectification purposes.

Tawau OCPD Asst Comm Jasmin Hussin said during the verification process, the suspects managed to convince the victim to transfer his

money to someone else’s bank accounts for “security reasons”.

“The victim made a total of 16 transactions amounting to RM747,000 to the unknown callers,” he said in a statement on Thursday.

It was only after these huge transactions that the victim felt uneasy and feared he had been tricked.

He then lodged a police report on the matter, ACP Jasmin said, adding the case is being investigated for cheating.

“The public must be cautious

and wary of such scams, which we call a Macau scam in this case,” he said.

He said no government department or agency has the authority to connect calls from one government department to another.

ACP Jasmin also urged the public to upload the “Semak Mule CCID” application in their mobile phones to check on the authenticity of a phone number or bank details of any call received to prevent being tricked.