



Headline: Civil servant made RM140,000 poorer after falling victim to Macau Scam Language: English

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## Civil servant made RM140,000 poorer after falling victim to Macau scam

**MIRI:** A civil servant, in her 40s, claimed to have lost RM140,000 to a Macau scam.

According to Sarawak Commercial Crime Investigation Department (CCID) chief Supt Maria Rasid, the police received a report on the case on April 8.

"The victim said on Jan 14 this year, she received a call from a woman who introduced herself as 'Mastura' from a takaful company.

"This Mastura claimed that the victim had made a takaful claim, which had been approved by the takaful company headquartered in Kuala Lumpur.

"However, the victim denied such claim. She was, however, instructed to submit her bank account details to Mastura," said Maria, adding that 'Mastura' then directed the call to one 'Sergeant Billy' from Pudu police station.

"The so-called sergeant said upon some checking, he told the victim that her name was associated with a money-laundering case, where RM2 million is said to have been transferred into the victim's bank account.

"The phone call was later directed to another individual, claiming to be a public prosecutor known only as 'Tuan Chong', who offered to help the victim, but only after she had transferred RM140,000 to an account, to be opened by her," said Maria.

She said the civil servant was also required to provide 'Tuan



Supt Maria Rasid

Chong' with all details of the new bank account, including the ATM card number, and also to link the account for online banking using a telephone number provided by 'him.

"In her panic and anxiety, the victim fully complied with all the instructions. After raising RM140,000 derived from bank loan, jewellery and her savings, she transferred the money into the newly-opened bank account.

"The victim was also promised that she would get the money back after the case was resolved," said Maria.

She said the victim only realised that she had been cheated after the RM140,000 had 'disappeared' from the new bank account.

"Her attempts to call the telephone number given by the suspect turned out futile."

Maria called upon the public to channel information of such cheating cases by contacting the CCID Scam Response Centre via 03-2610 1559 / 03-26101599, or the CCID Info Line 013-2111222 (WhatsApp or SMS).