

# Pahang cops nab 419 people over drug-related offences

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Pahang police chief Datuk Seri Ramli Mohamed Yoosuf said the suspects, aged between 15 and 61, were detained at their usual drug hotspots and also during police inspections conducted on commercial and public vehicles. - Bernama pic

KUANTAN: Police arrested 419 people, including nine women, suspected to be involved in drug-related activities across Pahang during the three-day Op Tapis Khas, which began on July 27.

Thirty-two drug dealers and 17 individuals who were on the police wanted list were also arrested.

Pahang police chief Datuk Seri Ramli Mohamed Yoosuf said the suspects, aged between 15 and 61, were detained at their usual drug hotspots and also during police inspections conducted on commercial and public vehicles.

"Drugs worth RM21,000 were seized in different locations during the operation jointly organised by police and the Road Transport Department. Police also seized cash amounting to RM2,561 and eight vehicles worth RM60,000 during the operation.

"Eighteen individuals were arrested under Section 39B of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1952, which carries a death sentence, while 309 were detained under Section 15(1)(a) of the same act for administering dangerous drugs to themselves. The

number of individuals arrested for drug offences in only three days is quite worrying," he said at the state police headquarters here today.

Ramli said the operation was the fifth conducted this year to curb drug abuse and it would be continued in various locations, including Felda settlements.

He said village headmen and community leaders could play a role in curbing drug abuse by destroying the usual hideouts and hotspots in their areas frequented by drug pushers and addicts.

"Police have identified 32 drug hotspots in the 11 districts in Pahang and some are located in Felda settlements. These 'ports' are usually temporarily set up by the drug addicts to obtain their supplies.

"We hope community leaders can work together with the relevant agencies to tear down and clean the drug ports. This is one of the preventive measures that they can take to curb drug abuse"

He said members of the public with any information on drug-related cases could contact the Pahang police's contingent control centre at 09-5051999/2202 or the Pahang police Criminal Investigation Department's hotline at 09-5052287.