

<p style="text-align: justify;">

MELAKA: A 71-year-old woman fell victim to an online love scam before losing RM18,000 to a syndicate operating via social media.</p> <p style="text-align:

justify;">State Commercial Crime Investigation Department chief, Superintendent E. Sundra Rajan said the senior citizen befriended a man via Facebook on March 27 and then continued their relationship through WhatsApp.</p> <p style="text-align: justify;">"During their initial

introduction online, the suspect told the victim he would be traveling to Japan to work on a railway construction project via a cargo ship.</p> <p style="text-align: justify;">"He then made

up another story saying he was detained at the Melaka Port and needed money to secure his release," he said.<br />The woman then told her nephew to help her with the transactions.</p>

<p style="text-align: justify;">"The victim's nephew made seven payments amounting to

RM18,000 to three different bank accounts given by the suspect.</p> <p style="text-align:

justify;">"After the payment was made, the suspect kept asking for more money from the victim, but this time it was allegedly for the Customs officers who stopped him.</p> <p

style="text-align: justify;">"The suspect deceived her again saying he had been detained by Customs officers because he was carrying a large sum of cash with him, which wasn't true," he

said.</p> <p style="text-align: justify;">Sundra said the woman had sought her nephew's help again, but this time the nephew did not help her.</p> <p style="text-align: justify;">Instead,

he brought the victim to the Tanjung Minyak police station to lodge a police report yesterday (April 15).</p> <p style="text-align: justify;">"The case is being investigated under Section 420

of the Penal Code for cheating. We urge the public to be careful and not to be easily ensnared by the promise of love on social sites, to avoid being cheated."</p> <p style="text-align:

justify;">He urged the public to download the 'check mule CCID' application through Google Playstore, to check on phone numbers and bank account numbers before making any

transactions involving a new individual.</p> <p>❖</p> <p style="text-align: justify;">Source: <a

href="https://www.nst.com.my/news/crime-courts/2021/04/682864/71-year-old-woman-loses-rm18k-love-scam?topicID=22826&articleID=682864">https://www.nst.com.my/news/crime-courts/2021/04/682864/71-year-old-woman-loses-rm18k-love-scam?topicID=22826&articleID=682864

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