More people falling victim to scams

109 cases involving RM3.97 m recorded between January and August, says Pahang CCID chief

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S the old saying goes, curiosity can sometimes get the better of us. In the case of financial schemes, it normally ends up with victims losing hard-earned cash.

Pahang's anti-white-collar crime department said it is not surprising to see more people falling victim to scams.

Superintendent of the Anti-White-Collar Crime Department, Wazir Mohd Yusof said the usual practice is for scammers to call victims and convince them to open bank accounts or pay money to them.

He said 109 cases were recorded involving losses to the tune of RM3.97 million, with 70 suspects arrested this year.

"From January to August last year, 111 cases were recorded involving losses of RM2.44 million. This year we have recorded 109 cases involving RM3.97 million losses," he said.

Wazir said victims were usually aged between 20 and 70 years old, with 50 per cent being housewives and the rest university students.

He said a hallmark of these scams is that scammers promise to pay a lump sum once you finish helping all the small fees, but somehow the money never shows up.

"If you are desperate for money, go through the proper channels."