SIBU: A 31-year-old clerk lost RM5,000 when she panicked after receiving a phone call from a scammer.

Sibu district police chief ACP Stanley Jonathan Ringgit said the complainant received a phone call from a woman who identified herself as ‘Siti Aisyah Ahmad’ from the Kuantan Inland Revenue Board (IRB) on Wednesday.

“In their conversation, the complainant was informed that the complainant’s information was used to open a company with an outstanding RM38,600.90,” he said in a statement yesterday.

He said the complainant was told that if she failed to pay the tax arrears by 5pm on Wednesday, she would be declared bankrupt.

The suspect then connected the call line to ‘Zaini Abdullah’ of ‘Pahang IPK’ who told the complainant that the case would take seven days to process.

Stanley said the suspect offered to help the complainant block his account and demand protection code from ‘Bank Negara Malaysia’.

“The complainant’s line was then connected to another male officer from ‘Bank Negara’ who asked the complainant to download an application.

“After downloading the application, the complainant was given a code and required to fill out her personal details and bank account details in the application.

“However, the complainant began to suspect and refused to give details of her other bank cards as requested by the suspect,” he told.

When the complainant checked her cash balance through the automated teller machine (ATM), she found that the money in her savings account had been reduced by RM5,000.

According to Stanley, the complainant lodged a police report on Thursday and that the case is being investigated under Section 420 of the Penal Code.