



Headline: Fake 'Beijing police' dupe engineer out of RM71,000

Language: English

Publication/Portal: The Star
Date: 17 February 2021

Section: Nation
Page: 10

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MELAKA: A 26-year-old engineer from Bukit Beruang here lost RM71,000 after receiving a call from "Beijing police" claiming he was being investigated.

Melaka Commercial Crime chief Supt E. Sundra Rajan said the victim panicked when he was told that a criminal branch of the Beijing police department had started investigations against him for allegedly sending a parcel by courier containing dozens of debit cards from Malaysia.

"The victim was also told that he was suspected by the Beijing authorities to be involved in money laundering," he said yesterday.

Supt Sundra said the victim was later asked to download the Skype app on his mobile phone to allow a fake Beijing police officer to communicate with him.

He added that on Jan 27, the victim was directed to deposit RM71,000 into two bank accounts as an inducement to avoid punitive action against him.

"However, the intimidation continued and the victim was asked to deposit even more money," he said.

Supt Sundra said the victim then realised that he was duped and lodged a report at the Bukit Baru police station on Monday.

He added that investigations also revealed that the scammer had used the same tactic to cheat three other individuals.