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Civil servant loses RM200k to scam

MIRI: A civil servant was left RM200,000 poorer after falling victim to a phone scam involving bogus police officers and officials from the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC).

The woman, who is in her 30s, had received calls from two phone numbers — 011-72650791 and 017-4525736, in which the callers accused her of being involved in money laundering activities. She denied the allegations.

She was later told that her bank account had been used for suspicious transactions and that her personal information had been misused by bank staff.

Miri police chief ACP Mohd Farhan Lee Abdullah said that the victim was later instructed to take out a personal loan of RM220,000 to help 'trap' the alleged rogue bank staff.

Trusting the callers, the victim also provided full access to her bank account details to the suspects.

"However, she realised she had been duped when she discovered RM200,000 was missing from her account after checking with the bank.

"She lodged a police report today (July 3).

"The case is being investigated under Section 420 of the Penal Code for cheating and dishonestly inducing the delivery of property," he said in a statement yesterday.

In light of this, Mohd Farhan urged the public to remain vigilant and never disclose personal or banking information to unknown individuals over the phone, especially if they claim to be from enforcement agencies.

Members of the public who receive suspicious calls are advised to contact the nearest police station or the CCID Scam Response Centre at 03-2610 1559/1599.

The public can also check the suspect's phone number and bank accounts through Check Scammer CCID app or the website <https://semakmule.rmp.gov.my/> before making any financial transactions.

They can visit the Commercial Crime Investigation Department's (CCID) official social media accounts on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok to get the latest information on scam modus operandi.