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# Phone scam: Two cases involving over RM55,000 in losses reported in Sibü

**SIBU:** Police here have received two reports of phone scams involving combined losses of RM55,650.

According to district police chief ACP Zulkipli Suhaili, the first case is of a female civil servant in her 30s who claimed that she received a call on July 22 from an individual claiming to be representing the 'Communications and Multimedia Department', who told her that she was suspected of being involved in gambling activities and also fake investments in Perak.

"After that, the line was transferred to an 'undercover police' who introduced himself as 'Sgt Danial Lau'. Here, the victim was told that she was involved in a fraud that had incurred losses estimated in millions, and was

told to make immediate payment to settle the case," said Zulkipli in a statement.

"Feeling afraid and worried, the woman followed all instructions given to her and made three transactions amounting to RM37,300 into three local bank accounts."

The other case, said Zulkipli, was of a private sector worker in his 20s who had on July 31, received a phone call from an individual who introduced himself as a Customs Department personnel.

"The private sector man was told that he had a package intercepted by Sarawak Customs. Just like the first case, the line was later connected to another individual who introduced himself as coming from IPK (police contingent headquarters

of) Sarawak.

"The victim was then told about an investigation, in which he was supposedly found to be involved in money-laundering activity involving a sum of RM80,000."

Zulkipli also said the victim was ordered to make some payments to facilitate the investigation.

"Out of fear, the victim followed all the instructions given to him and made four transactions amounting to RM18,350 to four local bank accounts.

"He only realised that it was a scam after informing the incident to his family members," he said, adding that both the civil servant and the private sector worker lodged police reports on Aug 14.

Zulkipli said both cases would be investigated under Section 420 of the Penal Code for cheating.