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Women loses RM103,600 to job scam

KUCHING: A 43-year-old local woman lost RM103,600 after falling prey to an online part-time job scam disguised as an e-commerce task commission offer.

Kuching police chief ACP Alexson Naga Chabu said the victim came across the job advertisement in a Telegram group on Nov 14 and was promised attractive commissions for completing simple online tasks.

"Throughout the engagement, she made nine transactions to seven different bank accounts as instructed by the suspects," he said in a statement.

He said the case is being investigated under Section 420 of the Penal Code for cheating, which carries up to 10 years in

jail, whipping and a fine.

Alexson added that from Jan 1 to Nov 20 this year, the district's Commercial Crime Investigation Division (CCID) recorded 48 similar cases, amounting to RM1.74 million in losses, including the latest case.

He advised the public not to be easily swayed by job offers on social media that promise lucrative returns and to verify suspicious accounts or phone numbers through the Semak Mule portal.

Victims who realise they have been scammed are urged to contact the National Scam Response Centre (NSRC) at 997 within 24 hours.

Suspicious activities can also be reported to Sarawak CCID via its hotline or WhatsApp.