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Woman loses RM80,000 to Macau scam

SIBU: A 49-year-old woman lost RM80,000 of her life savings after she was duped by a Macau scam syndicate.

Sibu police chief ACP Zulkipli Suhaili said the incident happened on Nov 24 last year when the victim was contacted by a man who claimed that she was involved in criminal cases.

"She was instructed by the suspect to open a new bank account at Bank Islam in order to allow her case to be investigated. She heeded (the instruction) and deposited RM80,000 into the new bank account.

"The suspect promised the victim that the money would be returned to her upon completion of the 'investigation'," he said in a statement.

According to Zulkipli, the victim only realised she had been duped after the money was not returned to her as promised.

"She lodged a police report on the first day of the Chinese New Year," he said, while advising the public not to believe calls from individuals who claim to be from government enforcement agencies.

To avoid falling prey to scammers, Zulkipli advised the public to use the Check Scammers CCID application or go to <http://semakmule.rmp.gov.my> before answering or entertaining calls from suspicious numbers.

The CCID Scam Response Centre is reachable on 03-26101559 or WhatsApp/SMS CCID infoline (013-2111222).