

Headline	All-out gambling war gains pace		
MediaTitle	Malay Mail		
Date	03 Oct 2017	Language	English
Circulation	100,000	Readership	300,000
Section	Top News	Page No	6
ArticleSize	271 cm²	Journalist	N/A
PR Value	RM 9,288		



All-out gambling war gains pace

JOHOR BARU — As a nationwide police strike against illegal gambling picks up pace, more than 700 premises have been raided and gambling machines worth more than RM6.6 million have been seized in Johor so far this year.

Johor Criminal Investigations Department (CID) chief Azman Ayob said a total of RM304,709 in cash was also seized.

"We arrested 4,609 suspects and 272 of them have been charged," he said in a statement yesterday.

Azman said Tenaga Nasional Bhd assisted to cut off the power supply to 160 premises where online gambling activities were being carried out.

In **Kuching**, police have dealt the death knell to fish, wukong and slot machines in Sarawak with the closure of many gambling outlets, said Sarawak CID chief Datuk Dev Kumar.

"We are confident we have seen the last



We are confident we have seen the last of these illegal gambling machines in the state.

— **Kumar**

of these illegal gambling machines in the state," he said in a statement.

However, he said the same could not be said of illegal four-digit (4D) and cyber gambling outlets, despite weekly raids.

Kumar said the CID had been taking a tougher approach by remanding illegal 4D operators with the hope of discouraging them from re-opening their counters.

"Cyber gambling still continues to exist but in a more clandestine manner, and gone

are the days of outlets having computers, laptops and tablets for cyber gambling," he said.

"Since the closure of cyber gambling outlets in the state, operators continue to feed the gambling addiction by providing reload services and online transactions to gamblers using mobile phones."

Kumar said after reloading their tablets or phones, customers were able to gamble anywhere, either at coffee shops or their homes.

The no-nonsense approach towards illegal gambling taken by Sarawak Commissioner of Police Datuk Amer Awal had made all district police chiefs more accountable to the state of affairs in their respective jurisdiction.

Between Sept 25 and Oct 1, state police conducted 78 raids which resulted in the arrest of 57 men and 39 women, including 10 foreigners, aged between 17 and 67.