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Police, TNB bust bitcoin mining operation

SERDANG: The police and Tenaga Nasional Berhad busted a group that had been stealing electricity supply to conduct bitcoin mining activities in a raid on six premises in Seri Kembangan and Bandar Kinrara here, on April 8 and 17.

Serdang district police deputy chief, Supt Mohd Rosdi Daud said the first raid involved three premises at the Bandar Putera Permai Commercial Centre, Seri Kembangan on April 8.

"Police detained two Chinese nationals who are believed to be the caretakers of the premises.

"The two, aged 32 and 38 years, did not have valid travel documents and were remanded for further investigations until April 28," he told a media conference at the Serdang district police headquarters here, on Monday.

He said no arrest was made in the second raid in Jalan Damai 3, Taman Damai Utama, Bandar Kinrara last Sunday.

"A total 297 bitcoin mining machines were seized in the two raids estimated to be worth RM100,000," he said.

The cases were investigated under Section 379 and 427 of the Penal Code for stealing and mischief, respectively, and Section 37(1) of the Electricity Supply Act 1990, he added. — Bernama