

# 16 nabbed over kidnapping

## Cops on the lookout for another suspect in Bandar Utama case

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**PETALING JAYA:** Police have detained 16 suspects and are on the lookout for one more involved in the kidnapping of a seven-year-old boy from Bandar Utama here on April 10.

Federal CID Director Comm Datuk Seri Bakri Zinin said in the incident the boy and his mother were leaving their home when they were approached by four dark-skinned men armed with sharp weapons.

They then grabbed the boy and took him away in a vehicle.

The following day, the kidnapers called the boy's father and asked him to pay RM1mil to secure the release of his son.

The boy was released unharmed four days later near the guard-house in his neighbourhood after his parents paid the ransom.

"Following a tip-off, police organised a large-scale operation on Tuesday which resulted in the arrests of 13 suspects aged between 19 and 70 including four women from various parts

of Selangor.

"We also seized about RM319,700 from the suspects which is believed to be part of the ransom," he said. Some of the suspects held jobs as car repossessor, labourer and security guard while a few of them had past criminal records.

He said police are not ruling out the possibility that family members may be involved in the kidnapping.

Comm Bakri said in follow-up operations on Wednesday and yesterday, police managed to track down another three suspects in Fraser Hill in Pahang, Juaseeh in Negri Sembilan and Serdang in Selangor.

"We are still on the lookout for Paramesvaran Ramu @ Veera (pic), whose last address is 587/18A, Jalan Waterfall, Taman Hijau, Rawang, to help in investigations.

"Anyone with information on his whereabouts are urged to contact the nearest police station or call the investigation officer ASP Mohd Hazreeq Yunus at 012-6179752," he said.



Fourteen suspects were remanded while two were released as the Petaling Jaya magistrate's court did not grant a remand order on them, which annoyed Comm Bakri.

He said the police should not be blamed if they could not complete their investigations as a result of the remand order not being issued.

He also warned the public not to be fooled by kidnap scams via SMSes or calls saying their loved ones had been kidnapped.

"Please check if they have really been kidnapped before banking in large amounts of money," Comm Bakri said.



**Detained:** Suspects in the abduction case walking out of the court in Petaling Jaya after being remanded yesterday.