

5 relatives held over sex abuse

HELP: Child psychiatrist to interview sisters, aged 5 and 7

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POLICE are investigating claims that five relatives had sexually abused two sisters, aged 5 and 7, including raping one of them.

Perak police chief Datuk Mohd Shukri Dahalan said they picked up the suspects after talking to the girls but pointed out that the investigation had proven to be a tough one.

He said the five detained were the girls' 70-year-old grandfather, two aunts, aged 36 and 43, and two male cousins, aged 17 and 24.

"The young girls keep pointing to almost every relative as the person who had abused them sexually. All including uncles, cousins, grandfather, father and aunts.

"This seems a bit outlandish... almost impossible... but we have to find out the truth."

Shukri said police would seek assistance from a child psychiatrist from the Penang Hospital to assist in the investigation.

"It would be difficult to carry out investigation without the help of a child psychiatrist," he said at a press conference here yesterday.

He said police were unable to ascertain if

rape had really taken place or if the wounds to the girls private parts were caused by blunt objects or fingers.

"The investigation is made more difficult with claims (made by the mother) that drugs were used on the girls before they were sexually assaulted."

All five were picked up by the police several days ago in and around Taiping following a police report lodged by the mother. Police were in the midst of recording statements from them for involvement in incest under Section 376(B) of the Penal Code, Shukri said, adding that police were looking for their father, in his early 40s and who is believed to be living in Kuala Lumpur.

It is learnt that the parents of the two children are divorced and the children are living with their mother, who is in her late 30s.

Since the mother is working to support her children, she would normally leave the children in the care of a relative in Taiping before going to work.

However, some time last month, she took her daughters to Taiping Hospital after they complained of pain in the lower abdomen.

Following checks done at the hospital, the mother lodged a police report on Dec 27 claiming that one of her daughters had a torn hymen and the other vaginal wounds.



"The investigation is made more difficult with claims that drugs were used."

Mohd Shukri Dahalan
Perak police chief