



28 Jun 07

Dear residents

**POLICE CRIME PREVENTION ADVISORY
CHEATING CASES INVOLVING GST OFFSET PACKAGE RUSE**

In view of the GST Offset Package, Police would like to advise the public to be vigilant of con-artists as there have been five cases of cheating involving victims aged between 31 and 65 yrs old.

2. The cheating cases are believed to have been committed by a female culprit, who would use a private telephone number to contact her victim. She would identify herself as a government employee who can assist the victim in obtaining a GST/Government Welfare bonus. The culprit would emphasize that this bonus payout would expire soon so as to persuade the victim to proceed to a nearby ATM machine to make the transaction. The victim only realized that he/she had been cheated after obtaining the transaction receipt indicating that a fund transfer had been made to another account.

3. The descriptions and methods used by the culprit are:

- i. Female subject;
- ii. Has an Indian accent in two of the reported cases;
- iii. Claims to be from a government agency ("GST Credit Dept", IRAS and "GST Govt Dept");
- iv. Has used the names: "Flora", "Yvonne" and "Rachel" in three cases;
- v. Usually places her calls in the afternoon between 1.15pm and 6.00pm.

4. For more information regarding the GST Offset Package, you may visit the following official website:

<http://www.gstoffset.gov.sg>

5. While Police are investigating into this matter, you may share this information with your family members and friends to warn them against falling prey to such opportunistic perpetrators.

6. In the event that you encounter such a case, please contact the Police at the nearest Neighbourhood Police Centre. Alternatively, you may also contact Community Involvement Division at 6478 2135 for more information.