



22 Dec 06

Dear Sir/Madam,

CRIME PREVENTION ADVISORY: USE OF COUNTERFEIT MONEY AS MODE OF PAYMENT

Police has recently received reports of a male suspect, believed to be of Indian descent, using counterfeit money as mode of payment for taxi fares and purchases of small value items.

Modus Operandi

2. Please take note that the culprit will normally use a fake currency note of S\$100/- to pay for rides from Lau Pa Sat to Lucky Plaza; and from Serangoon Road, near Mustafa Centre, to Chinatown, near the Pagoda Street Indian temple; and vice versa. At the end of the journey, the culprit would present the taxi driver the counterfeit note to pay for the fare which ranges from \$5 to \$20/-.

3. The scam can also take in other forms such as on two occasions where the culprit would reveal a Brunei \$100/- note to entice the taxi driver into believing that the note was genuine, while using a fake S\$100/- to pay for the fare. The culprit may also, on the pretext of urgent need, seek public help in changing loose notes using counterfeit money.

4. Description of the Suspect

The suspect is described as:

- A male believed to be of Indian descent,
- Age about 30-40yrs,
- About 1.7m tall,
- Medium-built
- Short black hair.

Crime Prevention Measures

5. Public and sole proprietors should remain alert and pay extra attention when customers pay for small value items using huge denominations of cash, e.g. S\$100/-. Below are a few factors which can assist public to identify counterfeit notes.

- i. Counterfeit Notes using serial numbers: **OAT026841 and OAR500930**;
- ii. Poor quality watermarks;
- iii. Pasted with genuine kinegrams cut-out from genuine notes;

- iv. Take note of the description of the culprit, eg attire, scars/tattoos, accent of language or any distinct features.
- v. Make note on the direction the culprit is heading and call the police immediately

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.