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Thai police detain two Japanese possibly over Myanmar scam hub case



Thai police have detained two Japanese men on suspicion of staying in the country illegally. A source said the pair have been linked with a major scam operation in eastern Myanmar.

Police say the 31-year-old and 22-year-old were held Tuesday in Mae Sot, western Thailand, near the border with Myanmar.

They say both have admitted to remaining in Thailand more than one month beyond the legal date.

A source says the Japanese government had asked Thai authorities for help with the case last month, saying the men were probably involved with the scam operation in Myanmar.

The men are believed to have been staying at the same facility where a high school student from Aichi Prefecture, central Japan, was taken into protective custody in Thailand last month after being forced to take part in

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Police say they will investigate the two suspects' circumstances, including whether they voluntarily participated in scams or were lured to the operation unknowingly.

Another 36-year-old Japanese man who was found in late February at a scam hub in Myanmar is being detained by authorities there. He is expected to be transferred to Thailand, then extradited to Japan.



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