

## Police prevent ganja valued at RM4.2m from reaching 400,000 users

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Biggest haul ... Police displaying the largest seizure of ganja drugs in Malaysian history at a press conference at Bukit Aman on March 15, 2016. SUNPIX by SHAHRILL BASRI

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Had anti-narcotics police not made the biggest haul of drugs recently, ganja worth RM4.2 million would have reached 400,000 drug users nationwide.

Federal narcotics crime investigation department director Commissioner Datuk Seri Mokhtar Mohd Shariff said police seized 1,208 slabs of ganja in two separate raids in Subang Jaya, Selangor and in Sungai Petani in Kedah in a single operation.

"With the amount of ganja seized, we conclude that the drugs were for local consumption and it was supposed to be marketed for the whole year.

"We estimate out of the 400,000 drug users, each would at least consume three grams of the ganja per day," Mokhtar told reporters in a press conference at Bukit Aman police headquarters today.

He said in the 3pm raid on Saturday, the raiding party made up of elite members of the federal police Special Tactics and Intelligence

Narcotics Group (Sting) also arrested a 38-year-old suspect in connection with the case.

"Upon inspection of the suspect's car, police seized over 160 slabs of ganja and he led us to a house also in Subang where we seized another 200 slabs of ganja," he said.

The suspect also led the investigators to another raid on Sunday at about 1.40am at a house in Sungai Petani where the police seized the remaining 848 slabs of ganja.

"In total, we seized 1,200kg of ganja and that is the biggest ganja haul in our history," Mokhtar said, adding that the drugs were brought in by sea from Thailand.

The suspect has been remanded until March 20 and it is learnt that police will make more arrests soon to facilitate the investigation.

In 2015, seven syndicates were crippled with 1,290kg of ganja seized, while in 2014, eight syndicates were busted and 396kg of ganja seized.