

## Syndicate uses 3-in-one instant coffee packs to conceal drugs

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Koo shows an instant coffee packet containing Ecstasy powder.

SIBU: Police believe they have crippled a drug trafficking syndicate that has been using instant 3-in-one coffee packets to conceal drugs with the arrest of three local men on Tuesday.

Sibu deputy police chief Supt Martin Koo said during the bust around 12.15pm, police seized 1.1214kg of ecstasy powder, 175 ecstasy pills, five bottles of ketamine liquid known as Happy Water weighing 10 milligrams each, RM3,900 and a four-wheel-drive vehicle from the trio aged 18, 19 and 20.

“The suspects were inside a four-wheel-drive vehicle when the police team led by Inspector Mohd Safwan Suhaimi intercepted them. Police found the drugs worth about RM22,540 inside the vehicle,” Koo told a press conference yesterday.

He said the Ecstasy powder was found in several premixed instant coffee packets.

“The packets were opened and resealed after the powder was mixed with the instant coffee mixture.

“This is a new modus operandi used by the syndicate discovered in Sibu,” he said, adding that the market price for the ecstasy powder in instant coffee packets was RM220 per packet, while the Happy Water was RM200 per 10 milligram bottle.

He added the suspects are unemployed and do not have a previous criminal record.

They tested positive for drugs and were remanded for seven days starting yesterday (Wednesday).

"We are investigating the source of the drugs. The case is being investigated under Section 39B of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1952 which carries the mandatory death penalty if convicted," said Koo.

He added that last Thursday, police also detained a 39-year-old man suspected to be involved in trafficking methamphetamine and Erimin 5 in the town area around 12.15am.

He said the suspect's urine test was also positive for drugs.

The suspect has been detained for 60 days for further investigation under Section 3 (1) of the Dangerous Drugs Act (Special Preventive Measures) 1985.