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Three jump into lake to avoid drug raid

KUALA LUMPUR: Three men who leapt into a lake to avoid a narcotics raid were fished out by firefighters alive but covered in mud.

The men, aged between 32 and 35, jumped into the lake which used to be an abandoned mine near the Batu Caves roundabout and hid in the marshes.

They were avoiding a narcotics operation codenamed *Ops Sarang* yesterday morning.

“We got a call at 8.30am and set out to the lake on our power boats.

“We found two men within 15 minutes. Finding the last man, however, took us another 30 minutes,” Kuala Lumpur Water Rescue Team chief Omar Chekku of the Fire and Rescue Department said.

Apparently, the 32-year-old had been released from jail just two days earlier.

Another had been out of prison for about two weeks.

Sentul OCPD Asst Comm R. Munusamy described the area, which was located under a bridge in Batu Caves, as a hotbed for drug addicts.

“We’ve raided the area several times. The situation would ease off for a while but the addicts would return,” he told reporters.

ACP Munusamy said the police, Public Works Department and Kuala Lumpur City Hall wanted to clear the area to make it safe and clean.