

Foetus dumped in bin

Student throws away baby after miscarriage in hospital toilet

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MALACCA: A woman in her 20s who went to the Malacca Hospital for treatment of stomach cramps had a miscarriage in a toilet there and dumped her five-month-old foetus in a dustbin.

The woman, a student at a local institution of higher learning, was sent to the hospital by her family on Tuesday. At about 4pm she needed to use the toilet.

She had a miscarriage while in the toilet and was believed to have dumped the foetus in a dustbin outside the emergency ward.

The woman confessed to the act when doctors, during an examination, suspected something amiss and questioned her.

A police report was lodged by the hospital authorities at around 7pm, resulting in the woman and her lover, in his 20s, being detained for questioning.

An initial search in the ward's dustbin on Tuesday night turned up empty as the garbage was believed to have been transferred to the hospital's main dumpsite.

The remains of the foetus was found at the dumpsite at 1.50pm yesterday by a police forensics team.

State CID chief ACP Mohd Adnan Abdullah said the couple had been remanded until Aug 21 to facilitate investigations.

This was the fifth incident involving baby dumping in the state this year, he added.

In Kuala Terengganu, a policeman was stunned when his daughter told him there was a baby at the gate of their home in Seberang Takir, near here, on Tuesday night.

The infant's umbilical cord was still attached to the baby boy's body when he was found by 19-year-old Nur Hafiana Marzuki at 10.30pm.

She told her father, L/Kpl Marzuki Hameed, 44, about the shocking discovery and he quickly made a police



Gruesome find: A police officer from the forensics unit searching for the foetus at the Malacca Hospital's main dumpsite. Below: The baby who was found outside a policeman's home in Kuala Terengganu being treated at the Sultanah Nur Zahirah Hospital yesterday.



report at Gong Badak.

The baby was rushed to the Sultanah Nur Zahirah Hospital here for treatment.

Police have set up a task force to trace the biological par-

ents of the newborn.

State acting CID chief Supt K. Manoharan said the baby was believed to have been delivered less than 24 hours before he was abandoned.

Meanwhile, in Seremban, Tampin OCPD Supt Wooi Kooi Cheang said police have arrested the 38-year-old boyfriend of a divorcee in their probe into a baby dumping case in Air Kuning on Aug 10.

The man, who is a civil servant, was arrested here on Tuesday and a three-day remand has been obtained against him.

Police, had on Saturday, detained the woman's 29-year-old ex-husband and a 26-year-old female friend for allegedly helping the divorcee to abandon her baby girl. Both have been remanded for a week.

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Looking at the bigger picture

A gem of a way to help young mothers

SHAH ALAM: In an effort to prevent young women from discarding their newborns, the Selangor government has formed a group Generasi Idaman Selangor (GEMS) to help educate young mums. GEMS will provide protection to mothers and babies, said Selangor executive

councillor Dr Halimah Ali.

"GEMS will also help educate men and women as we believe that education will help reduce cases of baby dumping," she told a press conference yesterday.

Halimah said the campaign would be publicised to the public on the

eve of the National Day celebrations at I-City, Klang which will be attended by Mentri Besar Tan Sri Khalid Ibrahim.

This was a joint effort by the health department, youth and women's councils, she said.

Dr Halimah said the welfare

department had also been roped in to look into setting up a shelter for abandoned babies.

She said the babies might be returned to the mothers if they were capable of looking after them.

"It is our combined responsibility to wipe out this problem", she said.