

Drugs: Indonesian charged

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Muhammad being taken to court yesterday.

TAWAU: A 22-year-old Indonesian was charged in the Magistrate's Court, here, Monday, with trafficking 7.4kg of syabu which was hidden in a paint can, earlier this month. However, no plea was recorded from Muhammad Ahmad after the charge was read before Magistrate Don Stiwin Malanjum. Muhammad from Bulukumba, Indonesia, was accused of committing the offence at 10.10am on Aug 8 at the public jetty area of the Tawau Port. The charge under Section 39B(1)(a) of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1952, carries a punishment of either the death penalty or life in prison and whipping with a minimum of 15 strokes. The court set next Sept 26 for mention, while waiting for the chemist report. ASP Nur Intan Jamrin prosecuted while the accused was not represented. It was reported previously that a suspect was arrested with having drugs worth RM444,400 which was hidden in a paint barrel filled with two packets of flour on top, aiming to obscure the eyes of the authorities. The paint can was 'stuffed' in two gunny sacks which were later found to contain seven packages of drugs weighing 7.4kg. Police believe the drugs were brought into the district for transit before trying to be smuggled out of Tawau.