

Second Penang bridge sees first suicide attempt

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By Looi Sue-Chern

The second Penang bridge saw an attempted suicide by a 26-year-old male who jumped off the bridge this afternoon. The man survived and was rescued by passing fishermen. Barely a week after its official opening, the second Penang bridge saw a suicide attempt, when a youth jumped off the bridge this afternoon.

Police said the man, a 26-year-old student who is a relative of a deputy minister, survived the fall and was rescued from the water by a passing fishing boat.

Southwest district police chief Superintendent Lai Fah Hin said the man was spotted trying to jump off the bridge at 2.40pm at kilometre 13.9 from Batu Maung to Batu Kawan.

He said Jambatan Kedua Sdn Bhd (JKSB), the bridge concessionaire, was alerted of the matter, before patrollers and police rushed to the site.

"The man jumped off some 10 minutes after he was first seen," Lai said, adding that the man survived the fall and floated in the water for about five minutes before he was rescued by passing fishermen.

Maritime police later brought the man back to the Batu Uban marine police base.

The man, a bachelor, was then sent to the Penang Hospital.

"He is now in stable condition.

"We are investigating this under Section 309 of the Penal Code for attempted suicide," Lai said. There have been numerous cases of suicide on the first Penang Bridge in the past. The second Penang bridge, now named Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah Bridge, was opened to traffic on March 2. - March 5, 2014.

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