



Fire and Rescue Department personnel leading the search for a woman who fell into a sinkhole in Masjid India, Kuala Lumpur, yesterday. PIC COURTESY OF FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT

CAPTURED ON CCTV

WOMAN FALLS INTO 8-METRE SINKHOLE

Rescuers working to find trapped foreign national in incident that occurred in Masjid India, KL

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RESCUERS are working feverishly to search for a foreign woman who fell into a sinkhole as she was walking in the Masjid India area yesterday.

The search and rescue effort, led by the Fire and Rescue Department, began after a distress call was received at 8.22am.

The department later received video footage from a closed-circuit television camera showing the woman, believed to be a 48-year-old from India, walking along a pedestrian pathway behind several other people.

The woman, who was wearing a saree, can be seen carrying a handbag and was walking towards a concrete bench.

Just as she was about to reach the bench, the ground around her sank and she fell into the sinkhole.



Assistant Commissioner of Police Sulizmie Affendy Sulaiman

Another man who was sitting on the nearby concrete bench was also seen almost falling into the sinkhole.

He was seen struggling to scramble out to safety just as the video ends.

The sinkhole, located near the Malayan Mansion on Jalan Masjid India, was about 8-metres deep.

Earlier, Dang Wangi police chief Assistant Commissioner of Police Sulizmie Affendy Sulaiman said 90 personnel from various agencies had joined the SAR operation.

“Based on eyewitness accounts of the incident, a search was immediately activated for the woman.”

“The agencies involved in the search and rescue efforts so far are the police, Fire and Rescue

Department, Kuala Lumpur City Hall, Civil Defence Force and Kuala Lumpur Hospital,” he told reporters at the scene.

“We will look at CCTV footage and take statements from witnesses to get a clearer picture of what occurred.”

Sulizmie Affendy said they were in talks with other agencies involved on safety concerns in the area following the emergence of the sinkhole.

“For now, we have not come to a decision on whether the area will be cordoned off as we feel that it is still safe,” he said.

“A proper analysis will be conducted and, if necessary, we will close off the area. We will update the media if this happens.”

Meanwhile, Kuala Lumpur Fire and Rescue Department deputy director Rozihan Anwar Mamat said a manual search had failed to locate the victim.

“We will be bringing in heavy machinery next and a Kuala Lumpur City Hall excavator will help us in digging a wider area where the sinkhole occurred to help us search for the victim.”

As of press time, rescuers were still looking for the victim.

Page 1 pic: An Indian national is believed to have fallen into a 8-metre deep sinkhole at Masjid India, Kuala Lumpur early yesterday morning.