Gambling: Two women fined RM1,500 each

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KOTA KINABALU: Two women were fined a total RM3,000 by the Magistrate's Court, Wednesday, for having illegal gambling paraphernalia. Piah Odol, 22 and Mar Hawati Mohd Anuar, 30, pleaded guilty before Magistrates Lovely Natasha Charles to purchasing illegal lottery tickets at 6.10pm and 3.40pm on Jan 7, this year and Oct 20, last year, in Sinsuran and Inanam, respectively. Each was fined RM1,500 or two months jail. Piah and Mar Hawati was charged under Section 9(1) of the Common Gaming House Act 1953 which provides for a fine of up to RM5,000, up to six months in jail, or both, on conviction. Cash amounting to RM90 was seized from Rosmawati. Duty counsel Lim Ming Zoong, representing Piah, requested a lenient fine as she is unemployed and remorseful. Lim, also representing Rosmawati, requested a lenient fine as it was her first offence and she is married with two children. Lovely ordered the seized money to be forfeited as government revenue.

In another case, four men were jailed five months each for taking drugs. Ali Liban, 50, Mohd Nasir, 35, Surian Syah, 37, and Mohd Fadhil, 26, admitted to taking syabu in different locations here. The court ordered Nasir, Surian and Fadhil to undergo police supervision for two years, while Ali was ordered referred to the Immigration Department after serving the sentence. The four were charged under Section 15 (1)(a) of the Dangerous Drugs Act which provides for a fine of up to RM5, 000 or up to two years' jail, on conviction. The prosecution told the court that the five were tested positive at the police station. Lim, representing Nasir, Fadhil and Surian, requested a lenient sentence. Meanwhile, Ali, unrepresented, requested leniency as he has to take care of his sick mother and five children and is remorseful. Inspector Kelvan Elson Maik prosecuted.