

13 Indonesians caught overstaying in M'sia jailed five months

MIRI: The Sessions Court here yesterday sentenced 13 Indonesian nationals to five months in jail each after they pleaded guilty to overstaying in Malaysia.

Judge Azreena Aziz handed down the sentence under Section 15(1)(c) of the Immigration Act 1959/63, punishable under Section 15(4) of the same Act, which provides for a fine of up to RM10,000 or imprisonment for up to five years, or both, upon conviction.

The 10 male and three female accused were also ordered to be referred to the Immigration Department for deportation upon their release.

The accused were Hotlas Yanti Silalahi, 35; Emy Kusuma, 43; Foren, 27; Hendra Kristian, 27; Toris, 30; Humam Abdurahman,

31; Mas Peni Karnain, 39; Yoseph Olla, 41; Markus Baman, 50; Arianti Harno, 41; Melvyn Tan Apelcio, 52; Milla Rinto, 33; and Ruhadi, 45.

According to the case facts, all 13 were arrested during Immigration Department operations in seven locations in Miri, Long Lama, and Baram between 3.20pm on March 13, 2025 and 3am the next day.

Investigations found they had overstayed for between four months and five years, following the expiration of their social visit passes.

During mitigation, the unrepresented accused all pleaded for leniency, stating this was their first offence.

The prosecution was handled by Immigration Department prosecuting officer Abdul Sophian Mohamad.