



The accused being led away by police after sentencing.

Shop assistant gets 20 years, eight strokes for raping underage girlfriend

KUCHING: A shop assistant was sentenced by the Sessions Court here yesterday to a total of 20 years in prison and eight strokes of the cane for raping a 13-year-old girl last year.

Judge Zuraidah Zakaria sentenced the 22-year-old man to 10 years and four strokes for each of the two charges, with the prison terms to run concurrently.

He was also ordered to undergo rehabilitative counselling during his custodial sentence, and to be placed under police supervision for a year upon his release.

The offences were committed in a toilet and an empty room at a workers' hostel in the Matang area here at around 12.15am and 2am, respectively, on Jan 31 last year.

Both charges were framed

under Section 376(1) of the Penal Code, which provides for up to 20 years' imprisonment and caning, upon conviction.

According to the facts of the case, the victim's mother suspected that her daughter had engaged in sexual intercourse with the accused, who was the girl's boyfriend.

The accused was arrested following a police report lodged by the mother.

The victim was referred to Sarawak General Hospital for a medical examination, which confirmed the presence of an old tear in her hymen.

The prosecution was led by deputy public prosecutor Mohd Fadzri Azham Zainudin, while the accused was represented by lawyer Moh Ung Kieng.