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Squid-stealing foreigners jailed 2 months, claim did so out of hunger as salaries unpaid

MIRI: Two foreign nationals were each sentenced to two months' imprisonment by the Magistrates' Court here yesterday for stealing 10kg of squid at the Miri Fish Market.

Indonesians Mohd Adid Kasim, 39, from East Java and Mohamdani Abdul Karim, 36, from Madura, who both work as general cleaners, pleaded guilty before Magistrate Ashok Linggam to a charge under Section 380 of the Penal Code read together with Section 34 of the same Code.

According to the facts of the case, the pair stole the squid from a 71-year-old trader at the

market at around 7.35pm on April 16, 2025.

In mitigation, Mohd Adid and Mohamdani pleaded for a lighter sentence as this was their first-offence

They told the court that they stole the squid out of desperation as they could not buy food due to not being paid their salaries.

The pair also said they had to frequently scavenge for food from trash bins, including discarded rotten sea catch, to survive.

Insp Mudzilawati Abdul Rahman prosecuted, while both accused were unrepresented by legal counsel.