

Man pleads guilty to illegally storing fireworks, fined RM5,000

SIBU: The Magistrates' Court here yesterday fined a man RM5,000 in default one month's jail for unlawfully storing a large quantity of fireworks at his house.

Magistrate Romario Jonoï imposed the fine after the accused Wong Chui Ung, 39, pleaded guilty to a charge under Section 8 of the Explosives Act 1957, which provides for up to seven years in prison or a fine of up to RM10,000, or both, upon conviction.

The offence was committed at a house on Jalan Wawasan here at about 10.15am on Feb 12 this year.

Wong, who was represented by counsel Chieng Lee Sing, paid the fine.

According to the facts of the case, a team from the Sibu General Operations Force raided the house and discovered more than 50 types of fireworks stored there.

Wong, the house owner, was detained after failing to produce valid documents and permits for the storage of the items.

The Sibu district police headquarters Licensing Division confirmed that the accused had no licence or permit nor had he made any application to keep or sell the fireworks.

Wong also admitted that the items belonged to him.

Analysis by the Chemistry Department found the fireworks contained chemicals capable of producing sparks, explosive sounds and light, as defined under Section 2 of the Explosives Act 1957.

The prosecution was handled by deputy public prosecutor Haris Danial Mohamed Hassan.