

(Front, from left) Sylvarius speaks to Mohammad Amin after the proceedings at the Kuching Court Complex. — Photo by Kentigern Minggu

Batu Kawa murder: Construction site cleaner charged

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KUCHING: A construction site cleaner was charged in the Magistrates' Court here yesterday with the murder of a woman, whose body was discovered in a rental room at MJC Batu Kawa last month.

Mohammad Amin Abdullah, 25, nodded when the charge under Section 302 of the Penal Code was read to him before Magistrate Ling Hui Chuan.

The Section provides for the

death penalty or a minimum of 30 years' jail and, if not sentenced to death, no less than 12 strokes of the cane upon conviction.

No plea was taken from the accused yesterday.

Prosecuting officer ASP Arman Ibrahim requested the court to set a new date for further mention of the case, as the chemist report was not ready.

Ling set this May 15 as the date for further mention.

Mohammad Amin is accused of murdering Noraliza Suhaili, 36, between 6pm and 7.15pm on Feb 5, when her body was found.

He was previously remanded from March 22-28 to assist with the investigation of the case handled by ASP Sylvarius Gopog.

It is understood that Mohammad Amin has a previous criminal record under Section 376 of the Penal Code for rape.

Padawan police chief Supt Mohd Irwan Hafiz Md Radzi was previously reported as saying that preliminary investigations revealed a fabric ligature around the victim's neck, indicating possible strangulation.