

Indonesian woman fined RM10,000 for operating gambling machines

KUCHING: The Magistrates' Court here yesterday fined a 23-year-old Indonesian woman, RM10,000 for operating gambling machines in January.

Yohana Sia Mei Mei from Singkawang, Indonesia pleaded guilty before Magistrate Zubaidah Sharkawi to the charge under Section 4B(a) of the Common Gaming Houses Act 1953.

The charge carries a fine between RM10,000 and RM100,000 for each gambling machine seized, and a jail term of not more than five years, upon conviction.

Sia committed the offence at the first floor of an eatery in Pine Square 2, Jalan Batu Kawa, here at 11.22pm on Jan 23.

Based on facts of the case, the police raided the premises under suspicion of gaming activities and found Sia running the place.

Further inspection at the premises found items that were suspected to have been used for illegal gaming such as three television monitors, nine joysticks, two top-up controllers, five mobile phones, one Wi-Fi modem, RM1460 in cash and Sia's passport.

A gaming expert further confirmed that one of the phones was used for an illegal gaming called "Wukong" and two of the joysticks were used as a top-up controller.

The items seized are listed under Section 2 of the Common Gaming Houses Act 1953.

Insp Syafiq Nyaie Ilin prosecuted the case while Sia was unrepresented by counsel.