

Gallows for man guilty of drug trafficking

KUCHING: A man was sentenced to death at the High Court here yesterday after he was found guilty on two charges of drug trafficking which he committed in a bus company at Jalan Penrissen on Sept 25, 2019.

Judge Azhahari Kamal Ramli meted the sentence against Eric Bong Jong Xiang, 25, after finding that the prosecution had proven a prima facie case against him.

"Having considered the evidence adduced during the trial in its totality, I am unable to find any reason to enable me to exercise my discretion in sentencing. There is no evidence that would enable me to impose imprisonment sentence under Section 39B(2A)."

"As such, I sentence the accused as follows, for the first charge, I sentence the accused to death pursuant to Section 39B(2) [of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1952] and for the second charge, I sentence the accused to death.

"Pursuant to Section 277 of the CPC (Criminal Procedure Code), I order that the accused be hanged

by the neck until he is dead," said Azahari during the proceeding yesterday.

The two charges were framed under Section 39B(1)(a) of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1952 which is punishable under Section 39B(2) of the same Act.

For the first charge, Eric was charged with trafficking 75.1 grams of syabu while the second charge is for trafficking 407.2 grams of ketamine.

All were committed around 3.45pm on Sept 25 at the bus company.

Earlier on March 9, Eric was ordered to enter his defence after the court had found that the prosecution had successfully proven a prima facie case against him. A total of nine witnesses were called in to testify during the trial.

Deputy public prosecutor Nabilah Ahmad Poad from the Royal Malaysian Customs Department prosecuted while the accused was represented by his lawyers, Osman Ibrahim, Roger Chin and Nur Atiqah Kulah.



Eric (centre) being led out of the courtroom by the police after the sentencing.