

# Company fined for timber offences, ordered to pay Sarawak govt RM373,580.20 in royalty

**BINTULU:** A company was fined RM50,000 in default two months' jail by the Sessions Court here for failure to pay timber royalty and unlawfully possessing forest produce.

Judge Leo Saga meted out the fine after company representative Ha Tiing Piew, 62, pleaded guilty to charges framed under sections 95 and 96 of the Forests Ordinance 2015, respectively, read together with sections 95(2), 96(3), 98, 99, and 79

of the same Ordinance.

Ha paid the fine.

The court also ordered the company to pay RM373,580.20 in royalty to the Sarawak government by virtue of Section 95(2) of the same Ordinance.

According to the charge sheet, several workers were caught in the midst of transporting and unloading forest produce consisting of timber logs at a sawmill belonging to Bunga Raya Bintulu Sdn Bhd, located within

Kemena Industrial District here at around 11pm on July 25, 2024.

They were detained by a team from the Sarawak Security and Enforcement Unit (UKPS) during a joint raid with the police and General Operations Force.

Prosecuting the case were deputy public prosecutor Ronald Felix Hardin and UKPS prosecuting officers Johny Ikau and Paddril Peter.

Ha was represented by counsel Boston Ho.