

# World Cup betting lands man with RM3,000 fine

**MIRI:** A 31-year-old man here was fined RM3,000 in default three months' imprisonment for betting on matches in the ongoing Fifa World Cup.

Magistrate Ashok Linggam convicted Vendrick Sandin of Desa Pujut, Bandar Baru Permyjaya on his own guilty plea to a charge under Section 6(1) of the Betting Act 1953.

The Section provides for a fine not exceeding RM5,000 or imprisonment for up to six months, or both, upon conviction.

According to the facts of the case, police conducting an 'Op Soga' operation raided a 24-hour

grocery shop at the Commercial Centre roundabout where the accused was working at about 10pm on June 20 and detained him on suspicion of conducting football betting related to the World Cup.

Seized as case exhibits were a mobile phone and RM104 in cash.

At the time of arrest, Vendrick was accessing a football betting application and admitted to placing bets.

In mitigation, the accused pleaded for leniency, citing that this was his first offence.

Separately in the same courtroom, a 25-year-old man was fined a total of RM6,100 in default six months' imprisonment after

pleaded guilty to possessing and consuming drugs.

On the first charge of possessing 0.32 grammes of methamphetamine, Dominic Cyprian Mani of Tudan Phase 1 here was fined RM3,600 in default three months' jail; while for the second charge of abusing amphetamine and methamphetamine, he was fined RM2,500 in default three months' jail and ordered to undergo two years of supervision by the authorities.

Both charges were framed under the Dangerous Drugs Act 1952.

The facts of the case stated that Dominic was arrested by

police at about 12.55pm on Feb 20 this year at Jalan Kiambang 1C, Tudan on suspicion of involvement in drug-related activities.

During a body search, the accused discarded a small transparent plastic packet onto the road, which upon inspection was found to contain a substance believed to be methamphetamine.

Urine screening at about 1.15pm the same day found him positive for amphetamine and methamphetamine.

ASP Mary Ong prosecuted both cases, while the two accused were unrepresented by legal counsel.