

# Five jailed, fined over stolen cables

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*The charge under Section 379 of the Penal Code carries a jail term of up to seven years or fine or both, on conviction.*

**KOTA KINABALU:** Five men, including three foreigners, were jailed and fined by the Magistrate's Court, Monday, on two counts of stealing cables and having stolen cables belonging to a telecommunication company. Filipinos Anudin Ali, 26, Pilza Md Alqasah, 26, Azman Mustapha, 23, and locals Arison Avel, 28, and Azman, 28, pleaded guilty to stealing 35 rods of cables belonging to Telekom Malaysia Berhad at 11.30pm on March 24, this year at the Tebobon traffic light, Jalan Tuaran Bypass, Manggatal. They were each jailed 12 months and fined RM2,500 or another eight months. The charge under Section 379 of the Penal Code carries a jail term of up to seven years or fine or both, on conviction. On the second, Anudin, Pilza and Azman Mustapha were handed 10 month's jail each after they admitted to having 10 2400PR cables, stolen from the same company at the same place and time. The offence under Section 411 of the Penal Code carries a jail term of up to five years or fine or both, on conviction. On the first court, Magistrate Jessica Ombou Kakayun was informed by the prosecution that the complainant lodged a police report on cable theft at Ketiau Bridge, Putatan which it suffered RM5,000 loss. The prosecution said the five were arrested by police at the said traffic light and the cables as well as a rented car were also seized from them.

In the second case, the stolen cables were reported missing at Jalan Penampang Lama, before a junction to Taman Starland on March 22 of the same year. When asked by the court about the rented car, Arison said that it was rented using a friend's name, who planned the crime but was not with them when they committed the offence. All five, who were not represented, requested a lenient sentence and applied to serve a sentence from their date of arrest. Jessica ordered them to serve the sentence from the date of their arrest and for the foreigners to be referred to the Immigration Department after that.

Meanwhile, a 29-year-old man was fined RM2,000 or three month's jail for failing to produce his MyKad to police during screening. Abdul Rahman Petjoh admitted to committing the offence when asked to do so by police corporal at 11.30pm on April 2 in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital 1 area. He was charged under Section 25(1)(n) of the National Registration Regulations 1990 which carries a jail term of up to three years or fine or both, on conviction. The court heard from the prosecution that Abdul was earlier detained for behaving suspiciously and failed to produce his identification document police when instructed. Requesting a lower fine, Abdul said his MyKad was missing at that time. Inspector Albert Basiri prosecuted.