

# Contractor gets 35 years, 24 strokes for sexually assaulting stepdaughter

**KUCHING:** A man was sentenced yesterday to a total of 35 years' imprisonment and 24 strokes of the cane for inciting his 10-year-old stepdaughter to commit an act of gross indecency with him, sexually assaulting her, and later threatening her.

In the Sessions Court, Judge Musli Ab Hamid sentenced the 35-year-old contractor to 12 years' imprisonment and 10 strokes of the cane after he pleaded guilty to a charge under Section 377E of the Penal Code.

The judge then imposed a further 17 years' imprisonment and 10 strokes of the cane after the accused pleaded guilty to an offence under Section 14(a) of the Sexual Offences against Children Act 2017 (Soaca) 2017.

Both charges were read together with Section 16 of Soaca, under which Judge Musli imposed an additional two years' imprisonment and two strokes of the cane for each charge.

The court also ordered the accused to undergo rehabilitative counselling during his imprisonment and to be placed under police supervision for two years upon his release.

In the Magistrates' Court, Magistrate Ling Hui Chuan sentenced the accused to 24 months' imprisonment after he pleaded guilty to a charge of criminal intimidation under Section 506 of the Penal Code.

All the offences were



The accused led away after sentencing.

committed at a village house along Jalan Bako at about 8pm on May 29, 2026.

According to the facts of the case, the accused entered the bathroom while the victim was bathing and directed her to perform a sexual act on him before sexually assaulting her.

He also threatened to beat her if she told her mother about the incident.

It was stated that the bathroom door's doorknob had long been broken, preventing it from being locked.

A police report was subsequently lodged by the victim's mother on June 8 after she learnt of the incident from the victim's class teacher, who had been informed by the girl's classmates.

The report was made only after the victim's mother received assistance from her cousin, as

she was initially unaware of the proper procedure for lodging a police report.

Investigations revealed that the victim had confided in her classmates about the sexual assault by her stepfather.

Their statements were found to be consistent with one another and were made before the matter was brought to the attention of their class teacher.

The accused was arrested on July 28.

During police investigations, the accused confessed that he had planned the acts beforehand as he had a "desire to try it out", and carried them out while his wife was away from the house.

Deputy public prosecutors Chuah Kai Sheng and Ahmad Fauzulutfi Suriani appeared separately for the prosecution, while the accused was unrepresented.