

Guilty plea to GST charges

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Telco shop owner asks for two weeks to pay fines

IPOH: A telecommunications retail shop owner, who pleaded guilty to eight counts of not submitting the Goods and Services Tax (GST) statements, has appealed to the Sessions Court here to give him two weeks to arrange to pay his fines.

Judge Murtazadi Amran granted Sun Yi Telecommunications Trading owner Wong Kean Yik's request and set Oct 19 for sentencing.

Judge Murtazadi warned Wong, 35, that for committing the offence, he could also face a jail sentence.

Wong earlier pleaded guilty to the charges of failing to submit the statements for the taxable period of between May 2015 and December 2015.

The offences were allegedly committed at the GST Division, Wisma Kastam, No 1, Jalan Tun Abdul Razak.

The charges under Section 41 (6) of the GST Act 2014, carry a maximum fine of RM50,000 or three years imprisonment, or both, upon conviction.

In mitigation, Wong, who was not represented said the statements were filed late because there were problems with the coupon reload system as well as the computerised system.

He said all the statements and payments had already been made to the department.

"I admit that I made a mistake, and I promise not to repeat it," he said.

Customs Department prosecuting officer S. Morgan said as a registered GST company, the onus was

on Wong to ensure the statements and payments were made on time.

He said Wong failed to follow the procedures, and submitted the statements late.

"I ask the court to give him an appropriate sentence as a lesson to him not to delay submitting the statements in future," he said.

Later outside the court, Morgan said this was the first case in Perak of a company owner charged in court for failing to submit GST statements on time.