

Student with Ecstasy pills jailed, fined

By DALILAH IBRAHIM

PETALING JAYA: A Singaporean student was jailed four months and fined RM10,000 or another 12 months' jail in default by the magistrate's court yesterday for possessing 3,970 Ecstasy pills.

Yeo Kim Ho, 21, committed the offence at Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport, Subang, on May 16, 1996 at 10.45am.

The pills, weighing 241.4gm, were found in four plastic bags strapped with tape to her body.

Magistrate Tay Lee Ly said that she took into consideration Yeo's back-

ground and age and also the fact that Yeo was a first offender.

"However, I also have to consider public interest and the amount of pills in this case," she said.

In mitigation, Yeo's counsel Kitson Foong, said his client came from a broken family and had to support a mother, a semi-paralysed sister and a younger brother.

Foong said Yeo was asked by a friend to carry the pills to Jakarta.

He pleaded for a lenient sentence as Yeo was young and had just entered college.

Prosecuting officer

Chief Insp Naraisami Alagu said Yeo was already given a chance because she was not charged under Section 39B which carries the death penalty.

"A jail sentence should be mandatory as Ecstasy pills are widely used and have become a serious problem," he said.

Yeo was charged under Section 12 (2) of the Dangerous Drugs Act which provides for a maximum sentence of five years' jail or RM20,000 fine or both.

Tay allowed Foong's application for a stay of execution pending appeal to the High Court.