

Pub owner charged for illegally confining worker

Buth Reaksmey Kongkea / Khmer Times /





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A 27-year old pub owner was charged in the Preah Vihear Provincial Court for illegally confining his staff-cum-lover in a room when she informed him she was quitting her job and leaving him.



Preah Vihear city deputy police chief Lieutenant Colonel Doung Seng identified the accused, who was arrested on Monday, as In Bunroeun, the owner of Luxury Beers Shop located in Kampong Pronak commune's Srah village.

He identified the victim as Suon Sreyheang, 20, who worked as a waiteress in the pub and stayed at her workplace.

Bunroeun was charged with "unlawful confinement" under Article 253 of the Criminal Code which carries a punishment of between two to five years in prison if convicted.

Lt Col Seng told Khmer Times yesterday, that according to the military police's report, the victim had been working with the accused since December last year and as her house was far, she was allowed to stay in the shop since she finished work every day past midnight.

Over time, he said, the accused and victim became lovers and even had a sexual relationship. She was also a victim of alleged abuse by the

Lt Col Seng said since early this month they got into arguments and the victim decided to quit her job on March 20 and left. The accused got angry, grabbed her, shoved her inside a room and locked her up illegally for two days.

He said the victim managed to alert her friend who in turn informed the Preah Vihear provincial authorities who arrested the accused on Monday after raiding the shop and rescuing the victim who was sent to the Provincial Rehabilitation Centre for counselling.

The accused is in pre-trial detention.

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