

'Maid may have been starved'

INHUMANE: A post-mortem revealed the 26kg maid had died from acute gastritis and ulcers

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CAMBODIAN maid Mey Sichan, whose body was found at her employer's hardware shop in Bukit Tengah on Saturday, may have been starved for a month before she died.

State police chief Datuk Ayub Yaakob said police detained three local workers at the hardware shop yesterday to facilitate investigations.

He said police believe the workers — two women and a man — can shed more light into the alleged abuses by the victim's employers, which he described as inhumane.

Ayub said police have informed the Royal Cambodian embassy of Sichan's death and

were making arrangements to send her body home.

He said a post-mortem revealed that the 24-year-old maid had died from acute gastritis and ulcers which were caused by severe starvation over a long period of time.

Ayub said Sichan's weight had dropped to 26kg when her body was found, way below the weight of a normal adult.

The deceased also had bruises and cuts all over her body.

It was reported that Sichan had been working as a maid for the couple for eight months and had been taking care of her employer's mother.

Her employer were living on the upper-floor of the three-storey shophouse.

A check at the premises yesterday showed that it was closed.