

Sex offenders face chemical castration, death under new Indonesian law

18/10/2016 22:10 by admin

Jakarta: Indonesia has become the first Southeast Asian country to use chemical castration on sex offenders, following in the footsteps of Russia, Poland, South Korea and some of the states in US.

Indonesia new rape law to allow chemical castration

The ruthless legislation was passed swiftly in Indonesian parliament on October 12 following the recent brutal gang rape and murder of 14-year-old Yuyun in Sumatra.

Previously the longest sentence available for rape, of either an adult or a child, was 14 years in jail.

But now under the legislation, signed by President Joko Widodo on Wednesday, convicted paedophiles may also have to have microchips implanted into their ankles so they can be monitored 24/7 by police .

Repeat offenders or those convicted of sexually abusing family members face a minimum of 10 years in prison and a maximum sentence of 20 years, however it is up to the discretion of the court if they are to be chemically castrated.

Those who murder their victims or leave them with permanent physical or psychological scars can be punished by death.

Three days after her death, 14-year-old's battered body was found, naked and tied-up in nearby woods. Seven teenagers have already been jailed for their role in the crime, while five others are yet to be sentenced.

Seven teenagers, aged 16 and 17, were arrested for their part in the horrifying murder, which sparked protests across the country.

President Widodo said the law will aim to prevent the sexual abuse of children across the country.

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