

24/03/1997

Remix of Getaran Jiwa may be banned

JOHOR BARU, Sun. - The Information Ministry may ban the remix of Getaran Jiwa if the new presentation by local group KRU is deemed to be against the teachings of Islam.

The song, popularised by the late Tan Sri P. Ramlee, has been remixed by KRU in its new album.

Its Minister, Datuk Mohamed Rahmat, said today he would consult the Islamic Affairs Unit of Radio Television Malaysia to ascertain if it was unlawful for KRU to sing a duet with someone who was dead.

He said that he would assess if the song should be given air-time.

Mohamed said this when commenting on a recent complaint by a mufti in Perak that the KRU's duet with the late singer was haram in Islam.

"I do not know what (religious) principle the mufti is adopting, as everyone is singing P. Ramlee's songs.

"This is just a comment from one mufti and I want to know the opinion of others as well on this issue.

"As Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said, we should not punish someone before finding out the truth," Mohamed told reporters at a thanksgiving ceremony organised by Kampung Skudai Kanan residents who were moving into a new housing scheme.

On banning indirect cigarette advertisements, he said it was difficult as products sold by cigarette companies were trademark items.

Mohamed said these trademark products would continue to be given a place in the media, adding that the companies could lodge a complaint with the World Trade Organisation if they were banned from advertising.

He was commenting on American tobacco firm Liggett Group which recently admitted that smoking caused cancer and that nicotine was addictive.

"We have long banned cigarette advertisements and will not allow such advertisements to be aired. (But) items in indirect cigarette advertisements are trademark items which are not easy to ban."

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