

07 AUG 1998

Radio

CATS RADIO TO REMAIN ON AIR DESPITE ECONOMIC TURMOIL

KUCHING, Aug 7 (Bernama) -- Sarawak's first private radio station, Cats Radio, launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad two years ago, will continue operating despite the economic meltdown.

Its chief executive officer, Affandi Tahir, said today the Cats (Ceriahan Aspirasi Terkini Sarawak) radio station was still under Kristal Harta Sdn Bhd's management and its air time would not be shortened.

"We will expand within three years from now by including various activities and not only on advertisements alone where with solid management Cats Radio will continue to exist," he told reporters, here.

Affandi who took over the CEO's post last month said the radio station now has 27 staff compared to more than 40 at its launch.

The radio station began broadcasting round-the-clock on Aug 8, 1996.

Early this year, Cats Radio shut down six of its 11 broadcasting stations in a move which reduces Kristal Harta's annual operating cost by RM3 million.

The affected stations are in Sri Aman, Sarikei, Lawas, Kapit, Singalang and Bakun.

The five Cats Radio stations still operating are in Kuching, Sibul, Miri, Bintulu and Limbang.

Affandi also said effective tomorrow the radio station's programmes would comprise 11 hours in Bahasa Melayu, English (seven hours), Mandarin (five hours) and Iban (one hour).

-- BERNAMA

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