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24-hour broadcast in three languages

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - Radio Ikim.fm's programmes would be broadcast in three languages namely Bahasa Malaysia, English and Arabic.

Institute of Islamic Understanding (Ikim) chairman Tan Sri Ahmad Sarji Abdul Hamid said the programmes are intended to inspire listeners to interact intellectually and to be more tolerant in discussing contemporary issues.

The station is the first fully digital Islamic-based radio station.

"We are allowed to broadcast 24 hours daily and have received an allocation of RM12.8 million from the Government."

Ahmad Sarji was speaking after witnessing the launching of the station by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, at Ikim headquarters today.

Listeners in Klang Valley can tune in to Radio Ikim.fm at 91.5 Mhz, Perak/Negri Sembilan (102.7Mhz), Kedah/Penang/Perlis (89.0 Mhz), Johor Baru (107.9 Mhz), Malacca (89.5 Mhz), Kota Baru (89.8 Mhz), Kuantan (89.6 Mhz), Kuala Terengganu (100.2 Mhz), Kuching (98.8 Mhz) and Kota Kinabalu (93.9 Mhz), Kota Baru (89.8 Mhz), Kuantan (89.6 Mhz), Kuala Terengganu (100.2 Mhz), Kuching (98.8 Mhz) and Kota Kinabalu (93.9 Mhz).

He said Ikim has formed a radio Ikim.fm contents advisory committee whose members comprise religious scholars, media representatives, academicians and representatives from non-governmental organisations. The committee is headed by Ahmad Sarji.

"The input by this committee would be considered in producing programmes for the station. We have to ensure that they have a certain standard and are in line with Ikim's objectives."

He said the committee would ensure that the contents did not contravene three main conditions:

- \* not spreading information on any religious belief except for Islamic teachings as approved by the Islamic Religious Development Department;
- \* not spreading information that could offend the other races and religions; and,
- \* not spreading information on cultural and moral aspects which contradict the country's aspirations.

Ahmad Sarji said the station would present "A world view of Islam" by featuring information with entertainment values.

He said such information would cover economy, management, business, finance, law, syariah, political science, social science, medicine, health and various communication fields.

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