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Radio-Islam

ISLAMIC RADIO STATION GOES ON THE AIR ON JULY 6

KUALA LUMPUR, June 22 (Bernama) -- The country's first Islamic radio station will begin its nationwide transmission on July 6, soon after its inauguration by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Malaysian Institute of Islamic Understanding (IKIM) Director-General Datuk Dr Ismail Ibrahim said the station, to be known as "IKIM FM", would have its own agenda and would not compete with other private radio stations such as ERA.

"IKIM FM is more towards Islamic form of infotertainment, dakwah, and promoting Islam as the Ad-din or a way of life," he told reporters after the 9th general meeting of IKIM in Jalan Duta, here today.

He said the station, which would go on the air 24 hours, would have 80 per cent of its programme broadcast in Malay and the rest in English.

The station had carried out test transmissions over the past several months, he said.

"The feedback we got was good. Some however felt the songs aired were not appropriate," he said.

He said the idea to set up the radio station was mooted as far back as in 1992 with the formation of IKIM.

Dr Ismail said IKIM might even have its own television station in future.

The station, set up through RM12.8 million allocation from the government, will transmit from IKIM.

It is developed with the assistance of Radio Television Malaysia (RTM).

--BERNAMA

SLR AHH ABG