

National Library to go digital by June
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KUALA LUMPUR: The National Library will implement the Resource Description and Access system by June this year, after five years of study on the system.

Director-General, [Datuk Raslin Abu Bakar](#) said the new system will bring about a significant change in library discipline by creating an efficient digital index of resources.

"Previously, one would have to use a card catalog to find book titles, writers, and contents which takes up time and effort, but with the new system adapted from the US Library of Congress, research on resources can be done in a fraction of the time," he said.

According to Raslin, the library's Technical, Catalogue and Category Unit held several discussions with European countries on the guidelines and implementation of the new system.

"We were given training by experts on the new system and currently, hundreds of resources in the library are in the process of being converted to the new system and the National Library is the first public library in the Asian region to implement the system," he said.

Raslin added that the new system was developed through the Community Organisation Culture & Information (COCI) Grant and was tabled by Malaysia at the 21st Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania here, on Tuesday.

The three-day conference themed 'National Library as an agent of transformation' started Tuesday and involves 32 participants from 22 countries.

Among them Australia, Bangladesh, China, Bhutan, Indonesia, Brunei, Vietnam and New Zealand. Bernama

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