

E-Judiciary for judges nationwide next March

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KUALA LUMPUR: Under the Electronic Judiciary (E-Judiciary) system to be used nationwide in March next year, judges can observe more in terms of the witnesses' facial expression as well as their lawyers during trials.

They can do this as they no longer need to write down the witnesses' statements as is practised now.

"Instead, the judge need only look at the computer screen in front of him, containing the transcript of every word uttered by the witness which would be typed down by the court reporters.

"This will enable the judge to observe more on the facial expression or the way witnesses give their statements and lawyers asking questions," Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Radzi Sheikh Ahmad said after witnessing a trial using the system at the High Court (Civil 1), Wisma Denmark.

The court and another court, High Court (Trade 1) at Sultan Abdul Samad Building are the pioneers of the (court recording and Transcription) system.

The E-Judiciary provides a support system in the form of audio recording should the court reporter miss specific words so that corrections could be made to produce a precise and perfect court transcript because every word from witnesses is important elements in any trial.

He said the public will be able to access the information they need more easily, cut down on legal costs as well as faster case solving, especially in cases which would take a long time to be solved.

Radzi said Malaysia should not lag behind other countries such as Australia, Singapore and Hongkong which has implemented information and communication technology in their judiciary.

Besides CRT, the E-Judiciary also covers the case management system which involves 11 courts as the pioneers; six courts at Jalan Raja Laut, two at Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad, a court at Wisma Denmark and two in Putrajaya.