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AGENCIES UNDER PM'S DEPT HAVE UNTIL FEB 7 TO SET UP COMMITTEES

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 23 (Bernama) -- Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Abdul Halim Ali has given all the 48 departments and agencies under the Prime Minister's Department until Feb 7 to set up integrity committees.

He issued the directive at a meeting with all the heads of department concerned, here, today.

"The objective of the integrity committees is to create an efficient and disciplined management devoid of corruption because a country plagued with graft will have a weak administration which will result in injustice to society. We do not want that to happen in Malaysia, he told reporters after the meeting.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, in a directive early this year, had given the menteri besar, chief ministers, service chiefs and heads of government department a month to set up integrity committees in efforts to combat corruption and abuse among government servants.

In the 50-page directive, he outlined, among others, a code of ethics for the departments, detection and punitive measures for employees involved in corruption, internal controls to check graft and rehabilitation for the departments involved.

The committees are to meet quarterly and prepare reports for the respective ministries which in turn will report to the Special Cabinet Committee on Government Management chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

-- BERNAMA

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