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Report bribery attempts, civil servants urged

KOTA KINABALU, Tues. - Government servants should immediately report to the Anti-Corruption Agency or the police if they are offered bribes.

ACA director-general Datuk Ahmad Zaki Husin said this would assist the agency and other authorities to eradicate corruption.

"Presently, most corruption cases are reported by parties involved in giving or offering bribes to government officers."

He said this after opening the third national-level meeting of the "Integrity Management Committee" at Pacific Sutera Hotel today.

Present at the two-day meeting which was opened by Chief Minister Datuk Seri Osu Sukam, were State Secretary Datuk K.Y. Mustafa and State Assembly deputy speaker Datuk Francis Yap.

On investigations into the Perwaja case, Ahmad Zaki said there was no further development.

He said the agency was seeking information from the Swiss Government. "The matter (with Switzerland) is at a Government-to-Government level."

On the level of corruption in Sabah, Ahmad Zaki said it was under control as the ACA received co-operation from all government agencies.

Up to this month, he said, the State ACA had investigated 723 cases and arrested 67 people.

Among them were a politician, two government officers, 32 non-management government employees and 32 others.

Earlier, he said, since the establishment of the integrity management committee at the national, State and district levels, the number of corruption cases reported by government officers had increased.

On Jan 8, 1998, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had directed all Menteri Besar, Chief Ministers, ministry secretary-generals and heads of departments to form the committees.

Ahmad Zaki also said that recently, the ACA and the Manpower and Administration Modernisation Planning Unit had been directed to visit and check all committees to ensure they carried out their functions.

"The directive was made following a study in Negri Sembilan which revealed that about 57.6 per cent of government officers were unaware of the Prime Minister's directive."

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