

No deadline set on IPCMC decision
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The government will not rush into making any decisions on the formation of Independent Police Complaints and Misconduct Commission (IPCMC), said the Prime Minister in a written reply in Parliament today.

Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said the Attorney-General's Chambers was still studying the formation of the independent commission .

"Before forming a commission, the government must take into account that the commission does not overrule any other laws and legislation in the country" said Abdullah.

"As such, the government will provide time for the AG Chambers to study the matter without setting a deadline."

"The government also will ensure any decision made on the formation of the independent body will increase public's confidence on the capability of the police force in providing a more effective service," he added.

The reply was in response to a query by Karpal Singh (DAP-Bukit Gelugor), who asked the Prime Minister to state when the government intends to set up the commission.

The IPCMC was proposed by the Royal Police Commission to enhance the image and accountability of the police force.

The proposal was welcomed by human rights groups and politicians. Even the premier had given it the green light. However the protracted delay in the setting up of the commission has caused concerns in all quarters.

Private sector employment

Meanwhile in another matter, the government said that it had taken several measures to encourage non-Bumiputera involvement in the public sector.

The written reply by the Abdullah stated that the government advertised job vacancy advertisements in Tamil and Chinese newspapers.

The reply was in response to M Kulasegaran's (DAP- Ipoh Timur) who asked the number of newly employed civil servants from 2004 to 2006.

He also wanted to know the steps taken to increase the number of non-Bumiputera employees in the civil service.

Abdullah's written response also stated that the government often invited teachers and students of vernacular schools for employment briefings in the civil service.

"The government also promote and disseminate information on the job opportunities in the public sector via print and electronic media such as RTM and TV3."

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