

THE STAR

DATE: 18/8/2010

Relentless drive to check graft

PUTRAJAYA: The Malaysian Anti Corruption Commission (MACC) is proving that its stance against corruption is not just rhetoric.

Its chief commissioner Datuk Abu Kassim Mohamed himself is "hungry for big fish" and will not relent in efforts to bring the corrupt to justice and has even put his job on the line.

Abu Kassim promised to resign should any complaints made, including those against Cabinet ministers, go uninvestigated.

However, the MACC would still depend on

the Attorney-General's Chambers to ultimately decide whether a case will ever see the courtroom.

The MACC compliance unit, officially named the Excellence and Professionalism Division, will be mainly responsible for ensuring the Commission's officers function to the highest standards.

The compliance unit supervises the conduct of MACC officers to ensure they perform their duties professionally and that they are not influenced by sentiments (communal, economic and political), especially



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political sentiments.

The Commission has received approval from the Government to hire an additional 5,000 officers that would be recruited in stages over the next five years.

Half of the group of officers will be performing investigations with the average handling of five to 10 cases each per year.

The MACC currently investigates approximately 1,000 cases a year.

With additional manpower, it would be able to investigate and go through more cases in a shorter amount of time.