

'PM committed to addressing leakages'

PUTRAJAYA: Malaysia can overcome the issues of waste and leakages in national spending due to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's pledge that the cabinet will take seriously and scrutinise every remark in the 2021 Auditor General's Report.

Auditor General Datuk Seri Nik Azman Nik Abdul Majid said it was a clear message to every ministry, department and statutory body not to take the report lightly.

He said during the audit team's meeting with Anwar on Jan 17, the prime minister stated that he would not prevent any weakness from being reported and had even asked the cabinet to review the report.

"The message from the prime minister is really a morale booster for the team to do our level best in serving the people and the country," he said at the press briefing on the Auditor General's Report 2021 Series 2 here yesterday.

On Jan 17, Anwar ordered the cabinet to take seriously and examine every remark in the Auditor General's Report regarding expenditures and leakages that did not meet conditions and regulations.

Nik Azman said Sabah and Selangor have yet to return the out-

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**DATUK SERI NIK AZMAN
NIK ABDUL MAJID**
Auditor general

standing balance of funds borrowed from the National Trust Fund (KWAN) amounting to RM145.37 million for the procurement of vaccines and the National Covid-19 Immunisation Programme (PICK).

He said negotiations were being carried out with the Selangor state secretary to obtain the balance of the funds before the same negotiations were held with Sabah.

Nik Azman said the funds, the breakdown of which was not disclosed for each state, should be returned to KWAN following PICK'S end in October 2021.

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