

## 'Appointment of MACC chief will follow due process'

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The appointment of the next Malaysia Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) chief will be based on the process approved by the Parliamentary Select Committee and relevant authority bodies.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim told the Lower House yesterday that the process of appointing the new MACC chief should follow due process.

"The appointment of the current MACC chief was done by the Pagoh member of parliament (Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin) and he was certified by Pagoh as a person who is independent," he said.

"The new method to appoint the MACC chief will depend on the progress made in Parliament.

"If the mechanism decided is from the recommendation by Transparency International-Malaysia, then it must be reviewed by the Attorney-General's Chambers and the Parliamentary Select Committee.

"If it's doable then I have no problem, but the process must be respected."

Anwar was responding to Datuk Mas Ermiyati (PN-Masjid Tanah) on the government's process of appointing the new MACC chief, as current chief commissioner Tan Sri Azam Baki's term was due to end soon.

She had also asked if the prime minister could guarantee that the appointment process would be brought to the special committee and the Lower House.

On Feb 5, Azam said MACC was open to the idea of having the appointments of its chief and senior officers placed under the authority of Parliament, as suggested by Dewan Rakyat Speaker Datuk Johari Abdul.

He added that he had yet to be called for any discussion on the matter.

Johari had suggested several improvements would be implemented to empower Parliament, including establishing special select committees on the appointments of key positions in government agencies, such as MACC and the Election Commission.

On March 9, 2020, Azam was appointed as the anti-graft body's chief following the resignation of his predecessor, Lath-eefa Koya.

The prime minister also said