

Better Financial Management At Government Depts - PAC
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KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 15 (Bernama) -- The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) affirmed that there was an improvement in the financial management of government agencies and departments in 2011 when more federal departments obtained the rating of 'very good' compared with the previous year.

PAC chairman Datuk Seri Azmi Khalid said the number of federal departments with the 'very good' or four-star rating increased from 43 in 2010 to 45 in 2011.

"The performance improvement was most significant with departments at state level, where the increase was from 34 departments in 2010 to 66 in 2011.

"Nonetheless, in the report, we also found weaknesses as in previous years involving contract management, equipment and government building maintenance.

"As an example, in the construction of the Kluang Hospital in Johor, the construction work was not in accordance with the set specifications and quality and it was delayed by more than a year. This is an old project which had just been audited," he said.

He was speaking at a press conference after attending a briefing by the National Audit Department on the Auditor-General's Report at Parliament House, here.

According to Azmi, the PAC would be calling on 30 agencies for further clarification as proposed by the Auditor-General's Department.

"We will study and make a decision after calling them. At the moment, we need to scrutinise the report for information and further action by the PAC.

The Auditor-General's Report, which is a statement on the financial activities of the federal government, federal non-statutory bodies and state governments in the previous year, was tabled in the Dewan Rakyat Monday after receiving the consent of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong.

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