

Silver Book to aid corporate responsibility

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THE government is planning to issue a "Silver Book" to help government-linked companies practise effective corporate social responsibility.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Nazri Abdul Aziz said the book was part of the Red and Green Books series introduced by the government to create a culture of integrity within the private sector.

"The primary aim of the Silver Book would be to create companies that practise integrity and those that place emphasis on the welfare of the people," he told Datuk Astaman Abdul Aziz (BN-Titiwangsa).

Nazri said every state would set up a State Integrity Institute to implement programmes related to integrity.

This would help ensure a culture of integrity at all levels of society, he added.

Nazri said the implementation of the National Integrity Plan would emphasise ethical business practices and corporate social responsibility as ways to eradicate bribery, corruption and abuse of power.

"Such moves would help to make Malaysia more competitive and attractive to foreign investors," he said.

On whether the Anti-Corruption Agency could investigate corruption within Umno, he denied saying that the anti-graft agency could not do so.

He said what he had actually

stated was that cases investigated by the ACA were different from those investigated by the party disciplinary board.

Nazri said the party's rules on corruption were sometimes even more stringent than those employed by the ACA.

"There are many situations or cases that may constitute an offence in the party but are not so as far as the ACA is concerned," he said in replying to a supplementary question by Lim Kit Siang (DAP-Ipoh Timur).

Citing an example, he said an Umno member vying for the post of division leader might have spent money in meeting delegates.

"Under ACA rules, the member did not commit wrongdoing, but under Umno regulations, such actions are wrong," he said.