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Government To Implement JITU To Fight Corruption In Public Sector

KUALA LUMPUR, March 17 (Bernama) – The government will be implementing the Integrity and Governance Committee (JITU) to fight against corruption and integrity issues in the public service sector.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, Datuk Paul Low Seng Kuan said JITU is a joint collaboration with ministries and agencies that would act as the prime vehicle to spear ahead all transformation programmes, relating to governance and integrity.

"The setting up of JITU has been approved by the cabinet last week. We are also working on its blueprint to be presented before the Chief Secretary to the Government. Once, he approves our proposal, we will implement JITU," he told reporters after attending the Public Policy Ministerial Forum Series 2014: Transformation Conversation Driving Change at the National Institute of Public Administration (Intan) here, Monday.

Also present were Intan director Datuk Mazlan Yusoff and Institute of Integrity Malaysia president Datuk Mohd Tap Salleh.

Low said JITU, which comprised 200 chief integrity officers from 700 ministries and government agencies, had undergone training with the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission to enhance their skills and understanding on integrity.

The one-day forum, organised by Intan, was attended by 200 government officers from various ministries and agencies to improve the civil servants in efforts to enhance efficiency, effectiveness and reputation of the sector.

On a different note, Low said internal auditors in every ministry now had options to report directly to the auditor general or ministers.

"Before this they (internal auditors) have to present the audit report to the ministries' secretary generals. But on certain cases now, they are allowed to present the report directly to the auditor general or ministers to avoid compromises," he said.

Touching on the forum, Low said every individual must contribute positively towards building and sustaining a corrupt-free society.

He also urged the civil servants to be more committed in exercising their authority and power, that had been entrusted to them in a righteous manner.

He said the government was aiming to achieve 55 score in the Corruption Perception Index this year as compared to 50 last year.

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