

AZMIN: EAC MEMBERS CREDIBLE

They have vast experience in many areas, says minister

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THE newly formed Economic Action Council (EAC), which would examine and make decisions on economic and financial matters, is well represented with credible individuals as its members.

Economic Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Azmin Ali said EAC members possessed vast experience in many areas.

"These are all credible personalities and have vast experience in many areas.

"This is a council that will continue to engage with stakeholders to bring in their views so that we can formulate immediate and medium-term strategies to resolve compelling issues," he said at the Federation of Hokkien Associations of Malaysia's Chinese New Year celebration in Subang Jaya yesterday.

On the issue of Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's absence as an EAC member, given his status as the prime minister-in-waiting, Azmin said EAC members were all chosen by Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"Regarding the members, it was a decision made by the prime minister.

"However, I believe that in the engagement process to get the



Economic Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Azmin Ali (third from right) tossing yee sang at the Federation of Hokkien Associations of Malaysia's Chinese New Year celebration in Subang Jaya yesterday. PIC BY SYARAFIQ ABD SAMAD

input and feedback, we will engage with stakeholders, which would include the youth, women and the business community.

"This is a small council to gather information from stakeholders."

Azmin said the council should be allowed to conduct its inaugural meeting first to set its parameters, and then engage with stakeholders to discuss how the

council could do its job.

At a separate event, Azmin rubbished claims that EAC was formed because Dr Mahathir was unhappy with the cabinet.

Azmin said the council's function was to address issues concerning the wellbeing of Malaysians, which include the rising cost of living.

"This council is action-oriented. We (the government) have

laid out long-term policies, and it's time to implement them.

"In Pakatan Harapan, we move collectively and decisions are made collectively. The council comprises different people with different expertise and skills with good standing among the people.

"Their input is important and we will use this to decide on collective actions that will positively affect the rakyat."