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MANAGING MISCONDUCT

JKA TO KEEP TABS ON 20 AGENCIES

This does not include the police, says Dr M

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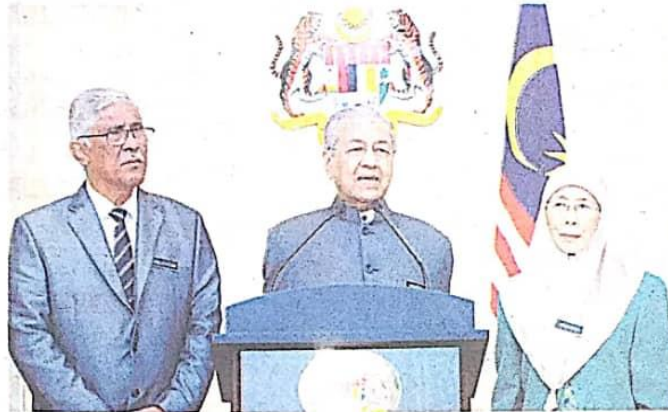
THE government has concurred with the Enforcement Agency Integrity Commission's (EAIC) proposal on the need for a Complaints Committee (JKA) to oversee grievances of misconduct in 20 enforcement agencies.

Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the move came following EAIC's imminent upgrade to become the Independent Police Complaints and Misconduct Commission (IPCMC).

He said JKA would be in charge of monitoring the management of complaints of misconduct in 20 enforcement agencies, except the police.

"The committee will be set up as soon as possible and will be run by a government agency that will be determined later. We will decide later who will lead the committee," he said after chairing the Special Cabinet Committee on Anti-Corruption (JKKMAR) meeting here yesterday.

Present were Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, Economic Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Azmin Ali, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Liew Vui Keong, National Centre for Governance, Integrity and Anti-Corruption director-general Tan Sri Abu Kassim Mohamed and



Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad speaking after chairing the Special Cabinet Committee on Anti-Corruption meeting in Putrajaya yesterday. With him are Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail (right) and National Centre for Governance, Integrity and Anti-Corruption director-general Tan Sri Abu Kassim Mohamed. PIC BY AHMAD IRHAM MOHD NOOR

Chief Secretary to the Government Datuk Seri Mohd Zuki Ali.

In July, the government tabled the IPCMC Bill 2019 in the Dewan Rakyat to replace EAIC with the aim of enhancing the integrity and capabilities of the police.

IPCMC will act as an independent monitoring body to receive complaints and conduct investigations into police misconduct.

Dr Mahathir said 182 papers on proposals and issues on governance, integrity and anti-corruption were presented and communicated at the JKKMAR meeting. Of the total, 47 proposals were resolved with action taken.

He said up to Dec 31, 22 of 115 initiatives in the National Anti-Corruption Plan 2019-2023 had been completed, including asset declaration by members of the administration.

The other initiatives, he said, were in progress, adding that JKKMAR had agreed to give lead agencies a one-year extension to

execute the initiatives.

He said JKKMAR agreed with the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission's (MACC) proposal that the termination of service of the MACC chief commissioner should be made through a constitutional process by amending the law.

He said JKKMAR agreed to study the possibility that the appointment of the MACC chief commissioner be made through a constitutional process.

"This is to prevent government intervention in the appointment (of the post) and to ensure transparency and independence of the chief commissioner from the influence of any quarters."

Dr Mahathir said the government was serious about acting on the proposals of the Institutional Reforms Committee (IRC).

"JKKMAR was informed today (yesterday) that of the 256 proposals submitted by IRC, 190 are within the scopes of governance,

integrity and anti-corruption, including 55 proposals on amending the Federal Constitution.

"For instance, (proposals) to reform the legislative and election systems, notification on these matters will be made to IRC."

He said JKKMAR agreed with the recommendations by the National Registration Department (NRD) to strengthen and improve its governance to address the issue of improper issuance of identification documents.

The recommendations include re-rating NRD as a high-risk agency, empowering its integrity unit and empowering its investigation and enforcement division by improving intelligence equipment, infrastructure, staffing system and skills management.

On the selection of JKA's members, Dr Mahathir said Parliament would nominate candidates before the prime minister finalised the list and submits it to the Yang di-Pertuan Agong for consent.