

Rotation of officers in 'sensitive positions' to take effect

PUTRAJAYA: The Public Service Department has been ordered to conduct rotation on its officers especially those involved in "sensitive positions" which are prone to misconduct, says Tan Sri Mohd Zuki Ali.

"I have repeatedly reminded all department heads to uphold the concept of integrity in its management by strengthening awareness programmes that are in line with the National Anti-Corruption Plan," said the Chief Secretary to the Government in a statement.

Mohd Zuki said there would be no compromise for civil servants found guilty of misconduct or corrupt acts.

He expressed his disappointment on the recent exposure of a government tender cartel by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC), which saw the involvement of public servants.

"I fully support all efforts to eradicate any form of misconduct in the government's delivery system, especially issues related to corruption.

"The MACC's exposure of a government tender cartel is truly worrying. Continuous intelligence by the MACC successfully led to the arrest of several suspects.

"I regret that there are a handful of civil servants who allow themselves to be used in return for kickbacks," he said.

Mohd Zuki also gave his assurance that stern action would be taken against those involved as it could taint the image of the public service.

On Sunday, the MACC crippled a "project cartel" said to involve government projects worth RM3.8bil with the arrests of seven people, including its mastermind.

It is believed that the cartel had monopolised a total of 345 tenders, involving ministries and government agencies nationwide.

The syndicate was also said to have been operating since 2014.

Sources said the head of the cartel controlled 150 companies that were being used to submit tender bids to ministries and agencies.

It is also believed that the syndicate used "insiders" who helped the mastermind's companies to submit tender bids and ensure they got the approval for the projects.

All seven suspects have been remanded to assist in investigations.