
High hopes for a corruption-free administration

PRIME MINISTER Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim often emphasises that the nation's success depends not only on economic progress but also on how governance is managed with integrity. The narrative of Malaysia Madani clearly asserts that integrity is the foundation of a country's success.

However, corruption issues among government employees often hamper efforts to enhance integrity, as the recent cases of corruption involving several officers from Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) and the Kajang Municipal Council show.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Federal Territories) Dr Zaliha Mustafa is playing a significant role in ensuring that there is no room for corruption in the departments and agencies under her jurisdiction.

She is committed to taking firm action to ensure that every

administrative matter is carried out transparently and fairly, stressing that firmness in fighting corruption is key to establishing an administration characterised by integrity and cleanliness.

The appointment of Datuk Seri Maimunah Mohd Sharif as mayor of Kuala Lumpur is seen as another positive step in governance reform. Maimunah, who has a strong background in urban planning and sustainable development, is an individual with extensive international experience. Previously, she held the position of executive director of UN-Habitat, a United Nations (UN) agency responsible for housing and urban development.

Maimunah also previously served as mayor of Penang City Council and president of Seberang Perai Municipal Council.

Her appointment as the mayor of Kuala Lumpur brings great hope that the city will be man-

aged more efficiently and with high integrity.

The presence of three formidable women in the administration of Kuala Lumpur – Dr Zaliha, Dato Indera Noridah Abdul Rahim (director-general of the Federal Territories Department), and Maimunah – clearly demonstrates the government's efforts in promoting transparent and responsible administration.

These three female icons are not only exceptional in their respective fields but they also bring a high standard of integrity to their administration. Notably, women leaders are known for their strict adherence to guidelines and their unwavering commitment to their work.

As an NGO advocating for integrity and governance issues, the Malaysian Integrity and Governance Society believes that the realisation of a civil state envisioned by the PM will only be achieved when every layer of

society, especially the public and administrative sectors, upholds the principle of integrity in every action.

The ongoing reforms must continue with strong support from all parties, including the public who need to play a role in monitoring and ensuring that every administrative matter is conducted transparently.

The people of Kuala Lumpur deserve a city managed with integrity, and we are confident that with the current leadership, DBKL will set the best example in terms of governance and cleanliness not only in Malaysia but also internationally. Together, we can build a corruption-free Kuala Lumpur that will be the pride of all Malaysians.

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