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A-G's 2007 report to carry remedies for mismanagement

KUALA LUMPUR: A full report on measures taken by sectors implicated in the mismanagement of public funds highlighted last year will be included in the Auditor-General's (A-G) 2007 report.

This follows complaints that the A-G's report lacked depth as there was no improvement in same weaknesses highlighted in the report over the years.

"We've been instructed by the Government to compile a report on actions taken by our auditees in respect to issues that were raised in the 2006 report, especially on fund mismanagement.

"The report is now in its final stages and we will include opinions as to whether their actions were substantial," Auditor-General Tan Sri Ambrin Buang told newsmen yesterday after delivering his keynote address at the 4th Asia Pacific Audit and Governance Summit.

He said this complemented the "star-rating system," which was proposed last year to rate government agencies according to their performance in all aspects.

"The ratings will also be included in the 2007 report," he added.

The A-G's 2006 report revealed a slew of cases involving mismanagement of funds such as paying RM1,146 for a set of pens costing RM160 and forking out RM5,700 for a car jack worth RM50.

"I must stress here, however, that the National Audit Department has no jurisdiction to penalise offenders highlighted in our report.

"That is under the purview of the Finance Ministry and the Public Accounts Committee," he said.

The A-G's 2007 report will be released on Aug 29.