Committee to prevent power abuse to be formed

SHAH ALAM: A special committee will be formed to ensure the new law replacing the Internal Security Act (ISA) will be enforced without any elements of power abuse.

The committee will submit a detailed report on its enforcement to the Prime Minister every six months.

Attorney-General Tan Sri Abdul Gani Patail said this at a press conference after giving a talk on the Security Offences (Special Measures) Bill 2012 to Law students at Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) here yesterday.

The Bill, passed in the Dewan Rakyat on Tuesday, will have to be approved by the Senate and the Yang di-Pertuan Agong before it is gazetted and the ISA completely done away with.

Abdul Gani said the committee and its panel have yet to be finalised, adding that he would send to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak the names of the heads of the Bar Council and the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia and that of a former Chief Justice, among others.

Asked to name the others, he said: “You will know when the time comes. There will be no politicians.”

Explaining the new law, Abdul Gani said the police cannot detain a person longer than 28 days and the detainee will be given a counsel within 48 hours of his arrest.