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Attorney-General's Expensive Information Management System Yields Dearth of Information on Cases

The Attorney-General's Department has an information management system known as SIMKARI—short for Information Management System of the Indonesian Attorney-General's Department. It has been under development since the 1990s and now includes an online information service for the general public. It was the Department's hope that online information provided via SIMKARI would: (1) be a comprehensive database on cases; (2) streamline administrative procedures around cases; (3) facilitate monitoring of case evolution, oversight and handling; (4) enhance transparency and accountability of case management; (5) help case controllers to plan their work and to take decisions more quickly and effectively; and (6) enable the public, if they wished, to more easily monitor case developments.

For SIMKARI's settling in period it was decided to have pilot projects in provincial Attorney-General's offices in North Sumatera, East Java, West Java, Special District of Jakarta, South Sulawesi, East Kalimantan, Riau, South Kalimantan, East Nusa Tenggara and South Sumatera. When Presidential decision No. 26/2010 on details of central government budgets for 2011 appeared, the Attorney-General's Department was very much to the fore in terms of funding for computer hardware and operational support costs for SIMKARI. In fact Rp 8.4 billion was budgeted for such hardware in 2011 with a further Rp 5.3 billion in the pipeline for both the 2012 and 2013 budget years. Meanwhile SIMKARI's operational support costs were Rp 28 billion in 2011 and will increase to Rp. 42 billion in 2012. A further Rp. 44.9 is earmarked to be spent on those costs in 2013.

All this leads Seknas FITRA to make the following observations:

1. To see how SIMKARI has progressed up to now, log on to <http://www.kejaksaan.go.id>. It is evident that SIMKARI is not yet perfect. Thus, despite SIMKARI's existence and the fact that people can lodge online complaints to the Attorney-General's Department, no information on Departmental follow up action on complaints is available on SIMKARI. This is a very disappointing situation.
2. Furthermore, in regard to public access to information on cases available via the online service, it is interesting to look at details of listings for the 10 provincial Attorney-General's offices in the table below:

No	Provincial Office	No of General Cases	No of Special Cases
1	North Sumatera	1 050	21
2	East Java	9	15
3	West Java	1 724	72
4	Special District of Jakarta	1 763	32
5	South Sulawesi	742	53
6	East Kalimantan	824	67
7	Riau	2 520	67
8	South Kalimantan	547	77
9	East Nusa Tenggara	278	26
10	South Sumatera	1591	33

Source: Data from websites of 10 provincial A-G's offices, processed by Seknas FITRA.

- Most of the cases publicized online by the 10 provincial offices date back to 2009 or 2010. For example, of 26 special cases publicized by the East Nusa Tenggara office, only 5 occurred in 2011—the other 21 dated back to 2010 or 2009. Similarly, the South Kalimantan office published details of 77 special cases. But only 5 of them were 2011 cases. Thus the online information system is not up to date and mostly contains yesterday's news. And the money spent on the system is largely a waste, because people wishing to obtain information on particular cases still have to go to an Attorney-General's office to get it. This disadvantages people because it involves costs beyond the travel expenses involved. Those costs arise because "people" inside the offices treat the information they hold as a commodity—an item with a price—and thus people wanting it have to bargain to get it.
- It follows that the SIMKARI system, which costs an enormous amount to run each year, is not yet working as it should and is offering a minimal return in terms of service to the public.

The situation outlined above leads us to ask Standing Committee III of the House of Representatives (DPR) to take charge of efforts to speed up the full establishment of SIMKARI which up to now has developed extremely slowly. SIMKARI's slow development could be a serious obstacle to bureaucratic reform within the Attorney-General's Department—despite the very large amounts of State funding the Department is receiving to implement a reform program. As can be seen in the table below, apart from funding for supply of computer hardware and operational costs of SIMKARI, the Attorney-General's Department is also being provided with funding for the purchase of detention vehicles, operational vehicles and ambulances.

No	Item	2011	2012	2013
1	SIMKARI operational support	28 743 178 000	42 674 397 000	44 935 775 000
2	Supply of SIMKARI hardware	8 422 850 000	5 355 225 000	5 355 225 000
3	Supply of detention vehicles	26 439 600 000	27 784 036 000	292 563 532 000
4	Supply of operational vehicles	6 310 600 000		
5	Supply of ambulances	250 000 000		

Source: Data from attachments 4d_0060101_005016 and 4d_0060102_005016 of Presidential decision No 26/2010 on details of central government budgets for 2011, processed by Seknas FITRA

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