

04 MAY 2001

Jamil-Crime

CRIME RATE DOWN IN THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF THE YEAR

MELAKA, May 4 (Bernama) -- The number of crime cases in the country decreased by 8.5 per cent to 39,800 in the first three months of this year compared with 43,500 cases reported in the corresponding period last year, Deputy Inspector General of Police, Datuk Mohamad Jamil Johari said today.

"The decrease is due to constant surveillance and preventive measures taken by the police with the cooperation of the public," he told reporters after attending a crime prevention meeting at the Melaka Tengah District Police Headquarters here.

He said 31 per cent of the cases were solved during the period under review which exceeded the target of 20 per cent set by Interpol.

Mohamad Jamil also said that the crime rate in Selangor, Kuala Lumpur, Perak and Johore showed notable decreases.

He added that police intelligence was always working round the clock to cut down on crime with the cooperation of the public and non-governmental organisations.

As for drug addicts, he said the police was working closely with Pemadam and non-governmental organisations to help former addicts find jobs in an effort to prevent them from going back to their old habits.

On non-visiting rights for families of detainees under the Internal Security Act (ISA), during the 60 day detention period, he said the non-visiting rights not necessarily covered that period only.

The Deputy IGP added that if the police is satisfied with investigations, it can allow families of the detainees to visit them even within the 60 day period.

He was commenting on the family of reformasi activist Raja Petra Raja Kamaruddin who visited him at the Kuala Lumpur Police Contingent Headquarters yesterday. He has been under detention under the ISA for the past 22 days.

On protection for police informers, he reiterated what Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had said recently, that laws would be formulated to provide protection to such informers.

"The problem of witnesses fearing for their safety if they come forward to give information can be overcome by simplifying the procedures for them," he said.

-- BERNAMA

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