

# P M : Beef up force

## New training centre to turn out more cops

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**KUANTAN:** The Prime Minister has ordered the police to step up patrols and establish a stronger presence in towns and cities because public apathy has emboldened criminals, especially snatch thieves.

"I have also directed that more police stations be built, and more officers and personnel recruited," said Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

As a step to boost the number of police personnel, Abdullah has approved the building of a new police training centre. The Government is currently in the midst of identifying the site.

Abdullah said the main problem the police force faced was the lack of training facilities; therefore it was urgent that another training centre bigger and better equipped than the current one in Kuala Lumpur be built

The Police Training Centre

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# Pak Lah slams public apathy

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(Pulapol) in Jalan Semarak cannot cope with a large number of recruits.

Speaking to newsmen after visiting a public housing project in Kampung Pak Mahat in Kempadang near here yesterday, the Prime Minister said he was disappointed that people could just stand back and do nothing when a crime was in progress before them.

"It's not my problem' must be the thought running through their mind, even when they see someone struggling with a snatch thief," he said when asked to comment on the increasing number of snatch thefts and victims who have died in the past week.

Abdullah said such indifference shown by Malaysians, who even when hearing calls for help would ignore such pleas, was appalling.

"The snatch thieves are getting bolder because they know that even if they do it in broad daylight, no one, absolutely no one, is going to help. They will all turn a blind eye," he said.

That was why the Government had to resort to increasing police personnel to stem the rise in crime, he said.

Meanwhile, Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Bakri Omar said he wanted highly qualified policemen to live up to their academic credentials by exhibiting excellent public image.

"In my opinion, there is no point holding an academic qualification if it is not used beneficially," he said at the closing ceremony for the Bachelor in Police Science degree and Diploma in Police Science programmes at Maktab PDRM in Cheras here yesterday.

High quality service includes the need to be well mannered, trustworthy, honest and friendly," he said.