



Working together: Nazri shaking hands with Lim after a four-hour public hearing on the crime situation in Johor Baru yesterday, as Parti Keadilan Rakyat president Datin Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail looks on.

Go all out to make Johor safe, cops told

Nazri: Accept criticism and work towards solving crimes

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JOHOR BARU: The police should be willing to accept criticism levelled against them by the public, and work towards solving the crime problem in the state.

Parliamentary Caucus on Human Rights and Good Governance chairman Datuk Seri Nazri Aziz said it was clear the public was dissatisfied with the police force.

"Enough of the denial syndrome. The overwhelming response from the public goes to show that there is a real problem," he told reporters after chairing a four-hour public hearing on the crime situation in Johor.

Nazri, who is also Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, said that reading about crime statistics alone was insufficient, and that only after he had gone to the ground was he able to feel the pulse of the people and understand the extent of the problem.

"What has been said about crime in Johor is a reality," he said.

He urged the police not to view the public hearing as a "police bashing" session but instead find a way to solve the grouses of the people, as they were there to protect the public.

Nazri, accompanied by caucus deputy chairman and Opposition Leader Lim Kit Siang, was among

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DATUK SERI NAZRI AZIZ

the politicians in the caucus who attended the public hearing.

Lim, who spoke at the opening of the hearing, said that it was not for the police to claim that the city was safe, but for the public to say that they felt safe in Johor Baru.

"At one time, New York was also notorious for its crime, but it has managed to get things under control now. There is no reason why we can't become the second New York," he said.

The caucus will hold similar public hearings in Petaling Jaya on July 11 and Bukit Mertajam on July 15. /