

Newspaper	Malaysian Reserve
Date	20 January 2016

Police and armed forces to reinforce security, says PM

Malaysian Reserve - 20/1/2016

Security to be enhanced at public and tourists hotspots following terror attacks in Jakarta

by AZREEN HANI

THE security level at public and tourists hotspots will be enhanced following the recent terrorist attacks in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Prime Minister (PM) Datuk Seri Mohd Najib Razak said the National Security Council has decided that the police and armed forces will work together to secure these places.

Najib, who chaired the council meeting yesterday, said that the joint patrol by the police

and armed forces will be deployed immediately to allay public fear and to demonstrate the authorities are in control at these locations.

Also present during the council's meeting were chief secretary to the government Tan Sri Dr Ali Hamsa, Inspector-General of Police (IGP) Tan Sri Khalid Abu Bakar, Malaysian Armed Forces chief General Tan Sri Zulkifeli Mohd Zin, former IGP Tun Mohammed Hanif Omar and former MAF chief General (Rtd) Tan Sri Mohamed Hashim Mohd Ali.

Government agencies such as the Immigration Department and Royal Malaysian Customs are also ordered to be on high alert.

Najib also said to date, 129

Malaysians have been arrested for involvement with the Daesh militant group (IS).

The premier on Monday was reported as saying that the government viewed religious extremists seriously and will take the necessary measures to stop any terrorist threats in Malaysia.

"The government has already instructed the national security agencies to beef up the security to manage possible terrorism threats due to their attacks in major cities worldwide," said Najib in his blog Najibrazak.com.

He also called on people to stop speculating or spreading information that could lead to uneasiness among the public.

Meanwhile, deputy PM Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid

Hamidi, in a press statement, urges the public to unite and support the government's efforts in combating terrorism.

"We must trust the Royal Malaysian Police and armed forces in performing their duties," said Ahmad Zahid who is also the home minister. "The government is not going to compromise on national security."

Last Friday, IS militants staged a gun-and-suicide bomb assault on a Starbucks outlet and police post in central Jakarta, killing three civilians in the worst attack in the Indonesian capital since 2009. Five attackers were killed while 28 people were also killed in a separate terrorist attack in Burkina Faso, Africa, on the same day.