



**5G
NETWORK
DEAL INKED**

Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad witnessing the exchanging of documents on the provisioning of the 5G network in Malaysia between Maxis Bhd chief executive officer Gokhan Ogut [third from left] and Huawei CEO Michael Yuan in Putrajaya yesterday. With them are Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission chairman Al-Ishsal Ishak [left], Huawei Carrier BG CEO Ryan Ding [second from right] and Deputy Communications and Multimedia Minister Eddin Syazlee Shith [right] Ptc BY LUQMAN HAKIM ZUBIR

'New security, public order policy to better address threats'

PUTRAJAYA: The new Security and Public Order (DKKA) Policy is crucial to help the country face security threats that have become more complex and difficult to handle using conventional methods.

Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said security threats needed to be addressed effectively to ensure the country's security and public order were maintained at all times.

"The government is responsible for ensuring the country's security and people's safety. A peaceful and safe nation will contribute to our prosperity and wellbeing.

"A strong and sustainable economic growth requires a stable and peaceful situation. It will not be realised when there is chaos and unrest," he said at the policy launch here yesterday.

Dr Mahathir cited the economic destruction of countries plagued with endless conflicts.

"These nations cannot focus on their socioeconomic development programmes due to disruptions."

The government, he said, had drafted the Shared Prosperity Vision, which would be the foundation of the 12th Malaysia Plan (12MP).

"This is why it is important for all policies, including the secu-

rity policy, to run in parallel with the country's direction and aspirations."

He said the growing and complex security issues were troublesome for any country in the world.

He listed external threats like transboundary crimes, which included terrorism, smuggling of goods and people, piracy and organised crimes.

In this respect, Dr Mahathir said Malaysia would need a holistic policy. Including building global strategic cooperation.

"For instance, social media has become a main platform to cause disunity, as well as sow fear among the people.

"This can destabilise the government."

Home Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said the implementation of the DKKA action plan would be monitored through a high-level committee chaired by him.

"The committee will comprise ministries and agencies involved in the enforcement. It is tasked with deciding the way forward for DKKA.

"It will be supported by a work committee headed by the ministry's secretary-general, Tan Sri Alwi Ibrahim, to assess the progress of programmes and activities carried out based on the policy."

On DKKA, Muhyiddin said a holistic approach, including information sharing, would address issues of security and public order challenges.

He said DKKA would replace the 2016 Internal Security Policy.

It comprises six cores and is supported by 21 strategies designed inclusively through focus group discussions, workshops and engagements.

The cores are to uphold the country's constitution sovereignty and its institutions to improve governance and the integrity of agencies under the ministry as well as strengthen border security.

Its other cores are to guarantee security and public order, to protect national assets and targets, and to fight drug abuse.

Asked if the new policy was due to shortcomings in the old policy, Muhyiddin said it was to improve and make it more relevant with current needs.

On whether there was a need to amend or repeal the Security Offences (Special Measures) Act 2012 (Sosma), he said it was being refined and studied.

"We can present it to the cabinet for tabling in Parliament after the study is completed.

"However, I'm not sure if we can do it in the current Parliament session, as the study is ongoing."