

PM LAUDS POLICE FOR COMMITMENT

This is reflected by drop in crime index Last year, says Ismail Sabri

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob paid tribute to the long arm of the law in conjunction

with the Police Day celebration yesterday.

Ismail Sabri said the Royal Malaysia Police (PDRM), which turned 215 this year, had grown into the nation's main enforcement agency that was mature and committed in executing its mandate and responsibility.

This, he said, was reflected in the crime index that registered a drop last year compared with the previous year, at a time when the police were also among the frontliners in the battle against Covid-19.

"Though almost the entire force was deployed for Covid-19 prevention operations, the police remained committed to their efforts to eradicate crime and pre-

serve harmony and peace.

"I learnt that the crime index for 2021 registered a drop with 52,974 cases reported compared with 65,623 cases the previous year.

"A total of 8,484 cases were reported in January and February this year compared with 9,773 cases in the same period last year.

"I would like to congratulate the police force for maintaining the momentum in reducing the crime index, which proves the highest level of credibility among the force in maintaining order and peace in the country," said Ismail Sabri in his speech at the 215th Police Day celebration, which maintained last year's theme of "Polis dan Masyarakat Berpisah Tiada" here yesterday.

Present were Home Minister Datuk Seri Hamzah Zainuddin and Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Acryl Sani Abdullah Sani.

The government, said Ismail Sabri, was aware that dealing with criminal cases had become increasingly complex due to advancement in technology and social media applications, which were being abused by irresponsible quarters to commit crime.

As such, he said, this required the police to deal with the matter firmly, strategically and effec-

tively to ensure national security and public order was preserved at all times.

"Nevertheless, the government is satisfied with the level of professionalism and readiness shown by the police in carrying out the trust, including in dealing with militant threats."

In the context of maintaining national security, Ismail Sabri said, the responsibility should not be placed solely on the shoulders of security forces such as the police.

"Therefore, I call on the people to stand together and work with the police to reduce crime and combat any attempts to threaten national sovereignty and public order.

"Let us together embrace the concept of Keluarga Malaysia, which focuses on inclusivity, common ground and contentment."

Meanwhile, Acryl Sani said the Sang Saka Biru team was always ready to carry the trust entrusted to them and the responsibility to protect the safety of the people and preserve peace in the country.

"We are ready to provide any form of assistance needed to support the policies rolled out by the government in maintaining peace and prosperity."