

Big salute to men in blue

PM: Police force key in helping us through the pandemic

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KUALA LUMPUR: The sacrifice and selflessness of the police force have been vital in reducing the burden on the Malaysian Family during the pandemic for the past two years, says Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob.

Congratulating the Royal Malaysia Police (PDRM) on the 215th anniversary of its inception, the Prime Minister said he appreciated the role placed by the police as frontliners during such trying times.

"While most of the strength of the police force was deployed for Covid-19 operations, the police were still committed to balancing the priority of combating crime and preserving national harmony and public order.

"The government is thankful to all police personnel who were willing to forsake personal interests and risk their own lives during the pandemic," he said in his speech during the 215th Police Day celebrations at the Police Training Centre (Pulapol) yesterday.

The Prime Minister also saluted the police force for reducing the crime index last year.

"I was informed that the crime index for last year was 52,974 compared to 65,623 in 2020. For the first four months this year, the index also showed a reduction, which is 8,484 cases compared to 9,773 cases during the same period last year."

Ismail Sabri said the government is aware that policing has become more complex, especially with the emergence of new technology and social media applications that have



Ready to serve: An aerial display during the Police Day celebrations at Pulapol. — YAP CHEE HONG/ The Star

been abused by criminals.

"Everyone demands the police curb such complex crimes firmly and in a strategic manner to ensure safety and public order.

"The government is satisfied with the level of professionalism and preparedness showed by police personnel in fulfilling their duties, especially in curbing militant threats," he added.

In the context of preserving the nation's peace and harmony, Ismail Sabri said the burden shouldn't be solely on the police's shoulders.

"I urge the whole of the Malaysian Family to work hand in hand with the police to reduce crime and curb efforts that could threaten the nation's sovereignty and public order," he said.

Inspector-General Police Tan Sri

Acryl Sani Abdullah Sani said the police will remain committed to ensuring security and public order.

He said the entire force renewed their oath of allegiance to the Yang di-Pertuan Agong and nation, and pledged to ensure that the safety of the people and sovereignty of the country continue to be preserved.

He added that by maintaining their theme "polis dan masyarakat berpisah tiada" (police and community are inseparable), all personnel were always ready to serve and stand firm under the banner of Sang Saka Biru to bear responsibility and be trusted to preserve community safety and national peace.

Acryl Sani was addressing the force during the Police Day celebrations yesterday.

The event was unlike previous

police day celebrations with police personnel maintaining strict Covid-19 standard operating procedure throughout.

"In an effort to strengthen the service delivery system of the police force, the government and Home Ministry have approved the acquisition of assets and equipment in line with the latest technological advances in modern policing.

"For that, on behalf of the force, I express my highest appreciation to the government and Home Ministry for their concerned about the needs of the police," he added.