

Abdullah to officiate at 197th Police Day today

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi will this afternoon officiate at the 197th Police Day at the training centre in Jalan Semarak.

The nation's Top Man, having led the Barisan Nasional to a resounding victory at the 11th general election over the weekend, takes the salute of the 56,038 policemen who ensured an incident-free polling.

In three years, Police Day is expected to be a grand affair as it will be its second centenary celebrations. Police Day was conceptualised to commemorate achievements and sacrifices.

With this in mind, Inspector-General of Police Datuk Seri Mohd Bakri Omar in his maiden Police Day address will ensure that a clear and loud message is sent down the line to policemen to carry out their duties in a manner which will ensure they are accorded the respect they deserve as law enforcers.

It cannot be denied that the police force plays a pivotal role in ensuring peace and stability.

Having been recognised for their contributions, policemen should also be prepared to be reminded of the oath they had taken "to serve and protect".

If perceptions based on media reports are anything to go by, it would seem murders, rapes and robberies are on the rise. And this seems to have ruffled the comfort and security

Today, Inspector-General of Police Datuk Seri Mohd Bakri Omar leads his men to re-evaluate their commitment, sacrifices and achievements in conjunction with 197th Police Day. He reminded them to continue living up to their "Friendly, Swift and Correct" motto. TONY EMMANUEL reports.

society has enjoyed.

Over the past five months since his appointment as IGP, Bakri has shown he means business by coming down hard on those who shirked their responsibilities.

When Bakri takes the podium today, those present will be reminded of the fate which befell those serving in Banting and Sungai Buloh, where gambling and vice dens were uncovered.

While speculation remains rife, the transfer orders were issued based on accountability and responsibility.

These are among virtues which will definitely contribute towards public confidence and enhancing the level of discipline.

Even if it comes to being unpopu-



BAKRI: Means business

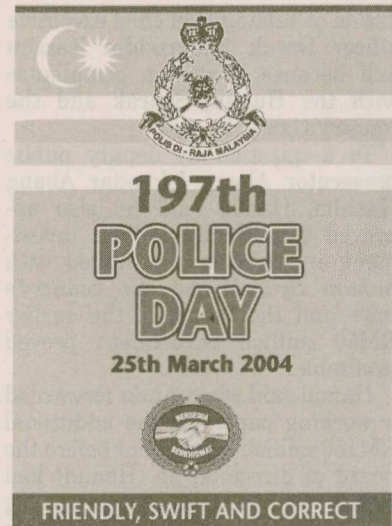
lar, Bakri will make his stand clear: There will be no compromise for those who shirk the oath they have taken.

He realises that should discipline be lacking, there is no way the police force can scale greater heights.

While there are those who may be justified in thinking that service perks and benefits leave much to be desired, Bakri would be able to re-assure his men on the role of the Royal Commission on the Police Force.

Also known as The Special Commission to Enhance the Operation and Management of the Royal Police Force, the truth will prevail as to what the force lacks, or what they were deprived of.

Coincidentally, as the Prime Minister delivers his address at the



police training centre, the commission will be holding its third public enquiry in Shah Alam.

Bakri will also emphasise the importance of improving police-community relations, as society has great expectations.

In 1999, police introduced the "Mesra, Cepat dan Betul" (Friendly, Swift and Correct) motto, and beginning today, Bakri will ensure his officers and men continue to live up to expectations of them.

Only then can the force look forward to their second centenary celebrations and boast of its excellence, glory and distinction.

□ tonye@nst.com.my