

**PM: High crime rate perception due to easy access of information**  
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KUALA TERENGGANU: Although the security situation has improved, people still face the perception that it is not because of easy access to information, said Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

The Prime Minister said with information readily available on social media and internet, incidents were reported immediately.

"If previously, not many people would know if a crime occurred, today it can become viral and reported based in real time.

"That is why the (crime) situation is considered worrying.

"When we say that crime is on the decline people question this based on what they read on the internet," he said when meeting state Rela members during his day-long visit to the state.

The Prime Minister said this was a new challenge for the authorities, dealing with a situation where there was "limited information" to one with "too much information".

He assured that while there would be no censorship of information in the internet, and there would be more effective approach in tackling this new challenge.

Najib said among measures taken by the government was to increase police presence, adding that Rela could play an important role in assuring the public's safety and security by deploying its members to further boost omnipresence.

He said Rela members could be placed in public areas such as malls, schools and in places where there were high occurrences of snatch thefts to put a stop on such crimes.

"When we place Rela members at car parks in shopping malls, it create a sense of safety among the public when they see individuals in yellow cap and green uniform around," he said.

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