

## **Police-People Cooperation Vital To Secure Country's Safety – Najib**

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KUALA LUMPUR, March 27 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said though we can take pride in the progress in tackling crime which has gone down by 27 percent in the last three years, there was more to be done to reduce crime to an optimum level.

"Crime has been reduced, thanks to the efforts of the police. Even so, I recognise there is more to be done in bringing crime down. For this, our police are transforming into a community-based policing service of the highest integrity and professionalism.

"As with all change, it will require time, we are not looking at a superficial shift but a full revamp in mindset of our police force," said Najib in his latest entry on his blog.

Hand in hand, police will continue to work together with the people to achieve common goals because a safe country is a happy country, and through the changes and initiatives the Barisan Nasional government has implemented for the police, he hoped that will be true of Malaysia in the years to come.

"I have always held the Royal Malaysia Police Force (PDRM) in high esteem. Growing up in a house with the late Tun Abdul Razak as my father, I have always been aware of and appreciated the sacrifices they have made for our nation towards maintaining peace.

"From the time of the Malaysian Emergency to the tragedy of May 13, they have always been the first in line to ensure the safety of the people. This Police Day, we honoured them once more, for their crucial role in Ops Daulat.

"We honoured the eight brave men from the police who made the ultimate sacrifice by putting their lives on the line to safeguard Malaysia's sovereignty.

May their actions never be forgotten amongst the rakyat, whom they fought to protect," he said.

The Prime Minister said in order to continue maintaining the stability of the region, he had announced the establishment of the Eastern Sabah Safety Zone (ESSZONE) to protect the people of Sabah.

"Through this, we will also ensure that the process of a free and fair election will not be interrupted for those living in the region," he said.

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