

**Opposition sends sympathies to Khairy for burgled home, calls for police reform**  
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A minister whose house was burgled on the weekend got sympathies from an unexpected quarter – the opposition.

"I know how it feels as my own house was burgled twice in 2009 and 2010, which was one of the main reasons my family moved into an apartment in 2011," said DAP national publicity secretary Tony Pua in a statement to the media.

Youth and Sports Minister Khairy Jamaluddin found his bungalow in Bukit Damansara burgled in daylight on Saturday. Only his maid was at home.

Pua took the opportunity to call on the police and government to face up to the reality of severe crime in Malaysia and start reforms. The Petaling Jaya Utara MP said: "Only and unless the Government and the police are willing to accept that fact, there will be no sense of urgency among the authorities to make things better.

"If the government and police do not face up to reality, what we will get instead are excuses from the police force and even Pemandu itself, that the repeal of Emergency Ordinance has caused an increase in crime."

Police had told The Malaysian Insider that the repeal of this act has put hardened criminals back on the streets and raised the incidences of crime. But lawyers that The Malaysian Insider spoke to had mixed reactions to this, with some saying there was no evidence from the police to back this claim.

Pua said the actual reason behind the weaknesses in police fighting crime was the misallocation of resources within the force on a grand and wasteful scale.

"Over the past eight years, the Criminal Investigation Department personnel comprised barely 9% of the entire police force. In comparison, 41 per cent of uniformed police perform management functions."

He noted that nearly one-third of the force – 31% – is in internal security and public order departments, such as the Federal Reserve Unit, the Light Strike Force and the General Operations Force.

Pua said that even the Special Branch had nearly the same amount of manpower as the CID but the Special Branch produced more than three times the number of reports that CID did.

"Budget figures in 2010 showed that the Special Branch produced 733,237 reports and security checks, but only 211,645 were produced by the CID.

"The 2005 Royal Commission of Inquiry (RCI) Report has recommended about 20,000 uniformed personnel or 22 per cent of the force should be reassigned to go back to active core policing work. Unfortunately this recommendation was never taken seriously by the Home Ministry.

"The Home Ministry and police should just accept the findings of the RCI and implement all

the necessary measures to improve the effectiveness and professionalism of the police force.

"As long as they keep procrastinating, this will result in crime persisting at high and increasing levels, making Malaysia unsafe not only for its citizens, but also as a country conducive to business and investment."

Referring to the burglary at Khairy's residence, Pua said nobody, whether a minister, politician, whether from Pakatan Rakyat or Barisan Nasional, or any man on the street, should be subjected to the trauma of crime in this country.

"We are thankful that in this instance, no one was injured in the incident. This, and many other crime incidents in recent months occurring to VIPs, including family members of other ministers and senior police officers, proves that crime is not mere perception in Malaysia.

"If ministers' and senior police officers are not safe from crime, then how can the ordinary city folks even sleep in peace? The threat of crime has forced the man on the street to take matters into their own hands by setting up 'illegal' boom gates and access barriers.

"Millions of ringgit have been spent annually by residents to employ security guards to protect themselves. There is no question that crime statistics over the past years have been manipulated to give Malaysians a false perception of security.

"The government claims that street crimes have been reduced by 40 per cent in recent years while the crime index has fallen by 25 per cent from 2007 to 2011.

"What the government has attempted to hide from Malaysians was that non-index crime index has over the same period increased by a whopping 69 per cent!" Pua said.

The most incredulous of the Barisan Nasional claims must be that Malaysia is the safest country in Southeast Asia, even safer than Singapore, and some say, Hong Kong and Japan, he added. - July 30, 2013.

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