

# Crime down 32% since January

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Hishammuddin: The most important thing is to maintain our efforts to achieve our NKRA target of reducing the crime index by 5%, and street crime by 20%, by the end of this year.

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Since the implementation of the various initiatives under the crime National Key Result Area (NKRA) of the Government Transformation Programme (GTP) street crime has been reduced by 32% for the first quarter of 2010, said Home Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein.

He said for the first quarter of last year 9,984 cases were reported while during the same period this year it went down to 6,158 cases.

Last year, he said 52,987 criminal cases were reported during the first quarter and the figure dropped by 7,979 cases to 45,008 cases during the same period this year.

"Although the statistics are very encouraging, the most important thing is to maintain our efforts and ensure we achieve our National Key Results Areas (NKRA) target of reducing the crime index by 5 percent and street crime by 20 percent by end of this year," he said.

"It is up to us to keep up the good work and push further our efforts to combat crime," he said, adding that he attributed the successful first quarter to the hard work and determination of the force.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Idris Jala, who is also chief executive officer of Performance Management and Delivery Unit (PEMANDU) also spoke on the matter last month, saying such results of a reduced crime rate could not have been possible without the strong commitment from the ministry and civil servants.

Special Officer to Home Minister Datuk Lau Yeng Peng said the ministry had taken a series of proactive measures to bring down the street crime index and crime index, such as increasing police presence and establishing more Malaysian Police Training Centres (Pulapol).

"More Pulapol centres will be built under the 10th Malaysia Plan to train more new police officers," Lau said.

Among other initiatives being rolled out are the deployment of 496 CCTVs by the end of this year and the reactivation of 337,459 Rakan Cop members.

Private and Government-linked companies, local councils and statutory bodies also have been roped in for the

## Crime records

Early signs are positive Q1 2010 resulting in incentive announcement by the PM to boost morale of the police force...



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## Crime update

The crime lab has come up with more than 55 initiatives to reduce crime by 20% by 2010. Key initiatives which have been implemented to date include...

- 1 Redeployment of police into 50 Hot-Spots
- 2 Feet-on-street by 3,150 RELA & JPAM members
- 3 Redeployment of 4,000 back-office police to the front line
- 4 Reactivation of 300,000 Rakan Cop Members
- 5 Ranking of 767 police stations across the country
- 6 496 CCTVs will be deployed by end 2010
- 7 Ops Lejang & Rentap (motorcycle) Pos pintu (house break-ins)



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first time to help fight crime.

Hishammuddin said many were aware of the effectiveness of an integrated approach and close co-operation between the police and auxiliary force to help reduce crime.

He said the latest initiative by the Government was an additional approach to community policing besides RELA, village committees and Rakan Cop.

"The police target is to reduce crime and with people feeling safer, the value of properties will rise," Hishammuddin said.

## CORRUPTION PROGRESS

The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) has made 144 arrests in the first three months of this year, of which, 46 have already been charged in court, said MACC investigation director Commissioner Mustafar

Ali.

He said the MACC was intensifying its reach in its efforts to curb corruption, adding that the NKRA strategies related to the Commission had broadened its empowerment.

The Government has agreed to add more personnel and the commission is in the process of recruiting but because of constraints, Mustafar said hiring will be done in phases.

The Government has also deployed several policies and framework to facilitate better enforcement against corruption offenders. Among them:

> the Whistleblower Protection Bill which has been tabled recently to provide protection to whistleblowers who expose corruption or improper conduct.

Whistleblowers would also have immunity from civil and criminal actions.

## Crime watch

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	United Kingdom*	Hong Kong**	Malaysia	Singapore***
Population (mil)	62	7	28	5
Crime cases (mil per annum)	4.9	0.071	0.211	0.032
Index crime (per 100,000 population)	7,903	1,014	753	640

\* Data taken from Home Office UK(2009)

\*\* Hong Kong crime data taken from www.police.gov.hk (2008)

\*\*\* Taken from www.asiaone.com; data 2008

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Meanwhile, cash rewards will be offered to encourage Malaysians to disclose wrongdoings in the public and private sectors.

While the quantum of the cash reward has not been finalised, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Nazri Aziz said: "The main aim of conferring protection to the whistleblowers is to encourage him to come forward to disclose improper conduct by eliminating any kind of fear or risk that may hinder him from doing so".

> Also details of bids for government tenders will now be open for public viewing via the government's tender portal known as MyProcurement at <http://myprocurement.treasury.gov>.

The move is to boost transparency and to discourage any corrupt practices in the awarding of projects and procurement.

The portal will comprise tender advertisements and the names of successful bidders will be uploaded on a regular basis to ensure "real-time" information is disseminated.

> The Court Registrar's Office has published a circular to resolve corruption cases in court within a year. Currently the court take up an average of 3.3 years for trials, and 5.2 years for appeals.

These lengthy trials and appeals have increased the opportunity for material witnesses to go missing, witness and evidence tampering, and fading of witness memory as well as witnesses get-

ting frustrated or losing interest in the case and thus becoming uncooperative.

In line with this, 14 Special Corruption Sessions Courts and four Special Corruption High Courts have been included in the 2010 Budget and will be established to accelerate trials for corruption.

> The MACC launched its 'name and shame' offender database on April 7 beginning with 52 names in its database of offenders. There are 95 names now.

The database is accessible by the public, including employers, intending to conduct background checks on certain individuals.

The database consists of full names of convicted offenders from Jan 1, 2010.

Among other details are the offender's identity card number, profession, and the offence committed as mentioned in the charge sheet and the penalty.

The database will only remove the names of offenders after three years if there were no repeat offences.

> The Government has also issued a circular to provide guidance for civil servants in handling support letters, which are often used to exert influence on civil servants in order to circumvent standard government policies and processes in obtaining contracts. The circular also advises civil servants to ensure that due process and regulations be upheld and not be subverted by such support letters.