

# Nusajaya is first safe city of Johor

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**NUSAJAYA:** Nusajaya was declared Johor's first Safe City yesterday, following the implementation of the security blueprint in the state.

The ceremony, held at Puteri Harbour, was attended by Johor police chief Datuk Mohd Mokhtar Mohd Shariff.

He said the Safe City concept stemmed from a cabinet directive and was adopted by the National Council for Local Authorities on Oct 11, 2004.

Nusajaya was chosen as the state's first Safe City because it was an economic and administration hub for Iskandar Malaysia, he said.

"The Safe City programme will be extended to other places but priority will be given to Iskandar Malaysia areas as security is important to gain

investors' confidence."

He said there were 23 crime prevention measures in the Safe City programme.

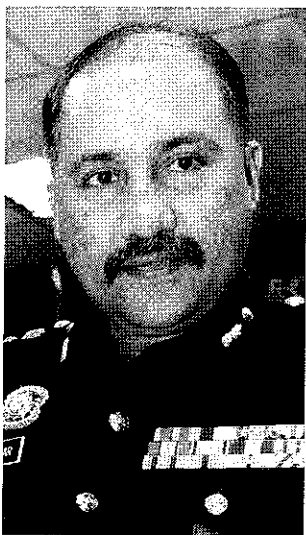
They involved government departments, the private sector and the public.

"Crime prevention becomes more efficient when it is shared between the police and the various sectors of the community."

Mohktar said the police presence here would be improved by setting up police bases in shophouses, each staffed by eight policemen.

"It will be our temporary measure while waiting for the completion of the Nusajaya district police headquarters."

The police chief said the crime rate in Johor between January and last Wednesday was down 13 per cent compared with the same period last year.



Johor police chief Datuk Mohd Mokhtar Mohd Shariff says the police in Nusajaya will set up temporary bases in shophouses

## Casual school date ends in rape

**SETIU:** A casual date in school went horribly wrong for a 13-year-old pupil when she was raped by her senior in a classroom.

The alleged rape took place at a secondary school in Permaisuri here on Monday, a public holiday.

The Form One pupil had agreed to meet her 15-year-old boyfriend in school, which was deserted except for the school guard, who had not noticed the pair sneaking in.

The boy persuaded her to follow him into a classroom and forced himself on her.

District police chief Deputy Superintendent Sheikh Othman Abdul Rahim said the girl's mother noticed she was unusually quiet when she went home after the incident.

On being questioned, the girl confessed to what had happened.

## 6 more Filipino robbers held

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Police believe they have curbed the activities of a notorious gang of Filipino robbers with the arrests of its leader and five others.

The six, of whom three were women, were captured in two hotels in Skudai, Johor, on Friday.

Dang Wangi police chief Assistant Commissioner Zulkarnain Abdul Rahman said police believed all of the Mangkui Gang's members were now in custody.

Police had picked up nine on July 9.

The Cebu island gang, so called after the 50-year-old leader's nickname, had been responsible for a spate of robberies against foreigners, mostly those from China and the Middle East.

From the six arrested on Friday, police recovered eight mobile phones, two watches, a bangle, a digital camera and RM700.

Zulkarnain said the hotel rooms the six were detained in



Dang Wangi police chief Assistant Commissioner Zulkarnain Abdul Rahman says all the gang members are now in custody

were used as hideouts. "They were lying low and waiting for the right moment to flee the country," he said after opening a crime prevention programme at Central Market yesterday.



Agriculture and Agro-based Industry Minister Datuk Noh Omar (second from right) congratulating recipients of the Fisheries Development Board Excellent Service Awards yesterday.

## Noh tells ministry officials to avoid opposition functions

**KUALALUMPUR:** Agriculture and Agro-based Industry Minister Datuk Noh Omar has directed his ministry officials to stay away from functions and meetings by state governments in opposition-held states.

He said it was pointless for officials to attend since the "opposition governments" do not fund any state programmes or activities.

The directive takes place with immediate effect.

"It's all a waste of time. What is the point of attending the meeting only to listen to the opposition giving out instructions

but not funds? We need funds for any development or to carry out activities."

He was speaking after giving out the Fisheries Development Board (LKIM) Excellent Service Awards 2008 yesterday.

Noh said all activities carried out by the ministry's nine agencies were fully-funded by the Federal Government.

Noh also announced several measures to improve his ministry's delivery system.

The ministry will stop giving out the RM200 monthly cost-of-living allowance via direct banking.


Starting September, the al-

lowance will be given in cash and the 55,000 fishermen entitled for it must receive it in person.

"At the same time, we will give them motivational talks so that they will change their mindset. We want them to improve themselves," said Noh, adding that the move would be implemented in stages throughout the country.


Noh has also made it mandatory for ministry officials to fill in a "client's form".

The form would contain the official and client names and a timeframe for the official to solve the problem.



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