

The Sufficiency of Safe City Program in Deterring Snatch Theft in Malaysia

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Abstract:

Crimes keep on being one of the main issues in most developing nations like Malaysia. Wrongdoing in lodging regions in Malaysia has turned into a piece of life, with road violations expanding; violations against people and properties producing extensive trepidation inside the local area, making security an issue requesting basic consideration at both neighborhood and public level. There is a need to concentrate on the adequacy of the Safe City Program in deterring snatch theft in metropolitan regions in Malaysia as there are bounty measures or procedures gave under the program. Moreover, since the execution of Safe City Program in Malaysia still at the underlying stage and is advancing, there is need for this review to have unique reference or benchmark to other countries where it has effectively carried out the idea. This study means to explore the sufficiency of Safe City Program in deterring snatch theft under the Penal Code (Revised 1997) in Malaysia.

Keywords —Crime, Snatch Theft, Safe City.

I. INTRODUCTION

Street crime is of expanding worry in Malaysia, for the most part the snatch theft by which this has been reflected widely in the traditional press and by bloggers, primarily because of the awful effect on the person in question and their families. Snatch thefts similarly are unimportant violations rather than house thefts or vehicle car burglaries. Notwithstanding, it positions among the most uncontrolled wrongdoing and can be possibly unsafe. It is common at the commercial centre, the night market, shopping edifices or cafés, basically every one of the puts we go to consistently. Much of the time the survivors of snatch thefts died or were terribly stung. There are around 70% of road wrongdoings recorded occurred in the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur and also in the states of Johor, Selangor and Penang and around 30% of all road violations were snatch thefts. It has been accounted for that 83% of snatch theft were

committed by motorbike riders. Measurements from the Crime Investigation Department of the Royal Malaysian Police showed that there was 8,700 revealed snatch thefts cases Malaysia. Of these 8,700 cases, 1,031 of the assailants were walking while 7,669 utilized motorcycles.

The disturbing measurements and rampancy of snatch theft cases has prompted execution of Safe City Program. The Government of Malaysia executes Safe City Program in a few metropolitan urban communities as one of the moves toward diminishing the pace of the road wrongdoing especially the snatch theft in Malaysia. The idea of Safe City in Malaysia was first proposed by Crime Prevention Foundation Malaysia (YPJM) in mid-1998 by which it recommended the Government to execute the program as a forward-moving step to conquer expanding wrongdoing issues in Malaysia. Subsequently, the Ministry of Housing and Local Government (KPKT) sent off the Safe City

Program in August 2004. The idea of Safe City targets establishing a protected and tranquil climate of city and lodging, in order to decrease crime percentage through ecological plan standards, security and local area improvement. Safe City Program laid out for Malaysian urban communities is applied as a premise to counter road violations; comparative projects have been demonstrated to decrease road wrongdoing in numerous urban communities.

The Safe City Program in Malaysia envelops three wide systems to be specific the ecological plan drive, target solidifying and the board, local area support and public mindfulness. Starting around 2004, just 39 Local Authorities out of 149 partook in this program, in view of the Ministry's monetary capacity. Six quick estimates which accentuation on legitimate ecological plan will be embraced under the Safe City Program to be specific, the separation of pedestrian walkways from motorised lanes; lighting; safety alarm; safety mirrors, cleaning and clearing of unkempt areas; installation of CCTVs; and the foundation of Geographical Information System (GIS) based maps for the distinguishing proof of wrongdoing areas of interest. A sum of RM36 million had been designated to carry out these tasks and to guarantee that at least 12 Local Authorities accomplish safe city status. In the Malaysian setting, road violations envelop three list wrongdoing types, to be specific snafth theft, individual theft without guns and group burglary without guns.

II. OBJECTIVES OF THE PAPER

The primary idea of this paper is to represent the overall thoughts of Safe City Program in Malaysia which is meant to deter and diminish road wrongdoing in metropolitan urban areas in Malaysia. The main idea to be explained in this paper is the term of safe city itself. This paper will investigate the sufficiency of Safe City Program in deterring snatch theft under the Penal Code in Malaysia. This paper will focus on snatch theft under the Malaysian Penal Code (Revised 1997).

III. VIEW ON THE TERM OF SAFE CITY

Oxford Dictionary characterizes the word 'safe' as "protected from or not exposed to danger or risk and not likely to be harmed or lost" and 'city' as "a large town or the city centre". The Eastern Regional Organisation for Planning and Housing (EAROPH), a non-governmental organisation (NGO) which acquired its NGO status from the United Nations characterizes safe city as "a city free from crime and free from fear of crime". In the interim, the Department of Town and Country Planning of Malaysia endeavours to characterize safe city as "a city that is free from all physical, social and mental threats".

As per Ahmad Nazrin Aris Anuar et al., safe city is a piece of liveable urban communities' idea centres around the wrongdoing issue in metropolitan regions. Alec Brownlow in his journal contents that safety is of central importance to urban economic development, whereby to be a competitive city is to be a safe city or, at least, a city that is perceived to be safe by the consuming public, as well as the other way around.

The Safe City idea showed up in the thoughts of Jane Jacobs through her diary named "Life and Death of American Cities" and it was distributed in 1961. In view of individual perception, Jane Jacobs proposes the fundamental idea of safe city by which she expresses that on the off chance that a city's roads are protected from boorishness and dread, the city is in this manner bearably protected from brutality and dread. As per her, the Safe City lays out an aggressive size of examination in which wellbeing in urban areas is a massively mind-boggling interconnected subject; it addresses the discernments and brain science of people, and the effect that the constructed climate has on amazing open doors for wrongdoing, actual commitment to financial restoration and decline, resultant populace streams, working class trip to suburbia, even worldwide unsteadiness, and dangers of global terrorism. For Jacobs, the more individuals are in

broad daylight, the amazing open doors for wrongdoing and problem are diminished, considering that individuals go about as the 'eyes and ears' of the road. At the end of the day, regular reconnaissance is expanded when individuals take the road and, in this manner, a city that is seen as protected would draw enormous groups, consequently expanding the discernment that the city is protected, which thusly, could really make the city more secure.

IV. EXECUTION OF SAFE CITY PROGRAM

The comprehension of Safe City Program as “free crime cities” actually came from the Safer Cities Program sent off at the worldwide level by the United Nation Agency for Human Settlements Providing Adequate Shelter For All (UN-Habitat) in 1996, at the request of African mayors who wanted to address metropolitan viciousness by creating counteraction methodologies at city level. A. N. Aris-Anuar et al. in their journal define the Safe City Program as characterize the Safe City Program as a wrongdoing counteraction technique through essential avoidance approach. It is likewise characterized as a wrongdoing counteraction steps program in guaranteeing the city's crime percentage could be diminished and permit the city occupants could live serenely and securely. In by and large, the Safe City Program is a program which covers the region of the urban communities with the mean to make them liberated from obliteration to properties and lives.

As per the report of UN-Habitat in 2006, the primary goal the Safer Cities Program or Safe City Program is to make a culture of counteraction and a protected climate for all metropolitan occupants by aiding nearby specialists, the criminal justice system, the private sector and civil society partners to address urban safety and reduce delinquency and insecurity. In Malaysia, the Safe City Program is executed through the local authority, and it conveystwo primary targets: to give full help to make mindfulness on the diminishing metropolitan wellbeing, and to contribute towards wrongdoing anticipation advancement techniques.

V. SNATCH THEFT IN MALAYSIA

In light of Scottish Crime Survey, snatch thefts are thefts from the person which involve some element of force as well as speed. As indicated by Khadija Monk, Justin A. Heinonen and John E.Eck, snatch theft tactic happens rapidly by which there is no verbal correspondence happens between the wrongdoer and the casualty before the theft and the guilty party commonly gets apparent property before escaping. Jonathan Smith explains that snatch theft is often classified as personal robberies which occurred in open public spaces, essentially a road, yet additionally trails, rear entryways, subways and parks.

In Malaysia, snatch theft was recently arranged as theft under Section 378 of the Penal Code. At the point when the wrongdoing of snatch theft turned out to be exceptionally wild in Malaysia, the Penal Code was amended in 2006 to classify snatch theft as robbery, of which the punishment is provided Section 392 of the Penal Code. Section 392 of the Penal Code states a punishment of imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years, and he shall also be liable to fine or to whipping in case where robbery has been committed. The punishment is heavier contrasted with previous punishment for snatch theft under Section 379 of the Penal Code where it accommodates for punishment of imprisonment for a term which may stretch out to seven years, or with fine, or with both, and for a second or ensuing offence shall be punished with imprisonment and shall also be liable to fine or to whipping. There is no regulation in Malaysia that has been made to legalise and execute crime prevention namely the Safe City Program.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

Based on the background and literature review of this article, it is apparent that the Malaysian Government is making effort to avert snatch theft under the Penal Code by carrying out the Safe City Program. The sufficiency of the Safe City Program in deterring snatch theft under the Penal Code is

sketchy as there are still spaces for the occurrence of snatch theft in Malaysia. It is seen that for Malaysia to gain far reaching and successful counteraction of snatch theft, the law and strategy managing the execution of Safe City Program should be improved by having a tighter regulation and strategy requirement. Therefore, there is a need to review and improve the law and policy with regards to Safe City Program to fill in the lacuna.

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