

# Firemen praised for going beyond call of duty

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**IPOH:** The dedication of firefighters in carrying out their duties in Perak has been praised by the state's ruler, Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah.

In his speech on World Firefighters' Day 2017 at Ipoh Town Hall here yesterday, he said personnel from the Fire and Rescue Department had demonstrated values such as humanity, kindness and the spirit of sacrifice while carrying out their responsibilities.

"They are performing their duties without any fear or favour, disregarding time, fatigue, heat, dew, rain or sweat.

"Let's hope their life will be blessed thanks to their deeds," said Sultan Nazrin.

The Ruler also said more should be done to appreciate firefighters in Malaysia, other than just awarding them medals and certificates.

Sultan Nazrin suggested that Firefighters' Day be made more meaningful by having more holistically rewarding events.

"Find ways to increase appreciation among the nation and society.

"Equip yourselves with programmes that have a meaningful impact as well as long-term benefits to firefighters," he said to the hundreds of officers gathered there for the celebration.

Urban Wellbeing, Housing and Local Government Minister Tan Sri Noh Omar thanked Sultan Nazrin for his kind words, and said his attendance at the event would



**Live demonstration:** Sultan Nazrin and Raja Permaisuri Perak Tuanku Zara Salim watching a demonstration on the cutting of a ring during the World Firefighters' Day celebrations in Ipoh — Bernama

inspired the firefighters to continue carrying out their duties well.

"We will look into his suggestions. Sultan Nazrin's speech shows that he appreciates their efforts.

"A firefighter's duty is not only about extinguishing fires. Today's parade showed the versatility of firefighters and the responsibilities

they shoulder in serving the people.

"The Fire and Rescue Department has been really effective. Their response time for any incident is from 10 to 20 minutes.

"Deaths from fires have also been reduced by 30%," said Noh, who revealed that in 2015, 153 deaths were recorded, but the number

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declined to 107 last year.

He also urged Malaysians to refrain from making false emergency calls as it will affect their efficiency.

On the hardware side, he said the Fire and Rescue Department had added two helicopters worth RM200mil and 20 aerial ladder platform vehicles, all from Italy.