

30 DEC 2000

Police-Celebration

HAPHAZARDLY PARKED CARS WILL BE TOWED - TRAFFIC COPS

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 30 (Bernama) -- The police today warned that haphazardly parked vehicles, which blocked traffic flow during the New Year eve celebration in the city tomorrow, will be towed.

Kuala Lumpur Traffic Police Chief Supt Ishak Abdul Manan said massive traffic congestion was expected at four locations within the city tomorrow due to the celebration.

The four are Jalan Bukit Bintang, Jalan Telawi in Bangsar, Merdeka Square and Kuala Lumpur City Centre (KLCC).

Ishak said vehicles found blocking the traffic flow would be towed away and their owners compounded RM300 for the offence. They will also have to pay RM50 towing charges.

He said the police would also conduct operations to nab illegal racers and drink drivers during the New Year eve celebration.

He advised the public to use public transport like the light rail transit system (LRT) in order to get to the locations.

The operators of the Kuala Lumpur LRT services, Star and Putra, would extend their operations tomorrow until 3am on New Year day.

Those using private transport, in order to get to the celebration sites, would have to park their vehicles at a distance away as the streets approaching the four locations would be closed in stages.

He said Jalan Bukit Bintang will be closed from midnight tonight until 8am Jan 1 for the staging of a symphony orchestra in front of the Bukit Bintang Girls School.

Ishak said Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi is the guest-of-honour at the function and 55 traffic policemen would be deployed to control the situation in the area.

The route from Regent Hotel will be closed from 7pm tomorrow and Jalan Sultan Ismail from the Jalan Imbi intersection to Jalan Bukit Bintang would be made one-way towards Jalan Bukit Bintang.

Part of Jalan Bukit Bintang in front of Wisma Keck Seng would also be closed to traffic.

Ishak said for the Merdeka Square celebration, Jalan Raja from the Jalan Tun Perak intersection until Jalan Lebuhr Pasar Besar would be closed to traffic.

He said 20 traffic policemen would be deployed at the KLCC area where a "sky jump" from the Petronas Twin Towers would be held before the stroke of midnight tomorrow.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is expected to arrive to witness the event at 11pm.

-- BERNAMA

YBK ES ZUL