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Group offers to train drivers on road skills

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - A group of professionals is willing to train Malaysian drivers on techniques such as night driving, driving on slippery roads and braking distances to help reduce road accidents.

Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport secretary-general Associate Professor S. Navaratnam (picture) said there was a need for drivers of private and commercial vehicles to learn such methods.

"We strongly believe that these methods can keep road accidents to the minimum," he said in an interview.

CILT sets standards for the transport and logistics industry worldwide, and provides training and certification for those in the industry.

The institute has three stages for professional driving licences. Stage one is a three-day course while stages two and three are seven days and 15 days respectively.

The institute suggests that government agencies begin the initiative to train drivers professionally before the private sector follow suit.

Navaratnam said studies had shown that driver psychology was to blame for most road accidents.

On another matter, he said former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad would be conferred an honorary fellowship by the International Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport on Monday. The award was in recognition of Dr Mahathir's contribution in providing world-class infrastructure.

Sarawak Chief Minister Tan Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud will receive a chartered fellowship award for his efforts in developing transportation in Sarawak.

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