

Pay heed to road safety, says Najib

New Straits Times

August 24, 2011

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KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak urged road users to exercise caution to reduce accidents during Hari Raya Aidilfitri.

Despite every possible measure taken to reduce the number of accidents, road crashes would still occur if drivers and motorcyclists did not abide by the rules, he said.

"I am very concerned and sad to hear news of road crashes which claimed lives and injured many during Hari Raya. Accidents can be reduced if motorists behave on the roads." He said motorists should take proper measures while heading home for the festive season, including planning their journey and conducting proper vehicle maintenance.

He said the RM15.6 million invested by the government last year to improve and upgrade 37 accident-prone stretches nationwide had been fruitful as no accidents had been reported along the roads until June. The hotspots, he said, recorded 365 accidents in 2009.

Domestic Trade, Cooperatives and Consumerism Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob read Najib's message when launching the "Message from the prime minister" programme at the National Defence University in Sungai Besi camp, here, yesterday.

Present were the university's vicechancellor Lt-Gen Datuk Allatif Mohd Noor and deputy vice-chancellor (student affairs and alumni) Professor Wan Mahzom Ahmad Shah.

Ismail also said 200,000 Hari Raya cards from the prime minister, together with Raya video compact discs would be distributed to the public from yesterday until Hari Raya at toll booths, shopping malls, hypermarkets and selected banks.

On the price control scheme, which took effect yesterday until Sept 6, Ismail said the ministry's 1,000 price-monitoring officers, 2,000 enforcement officers and 50,000 consumer friends of the ministry had started monitoring and checking on distributors and traders.

He also urged consumers to report errant traders to the ministry.

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