

Wee: Amendments To Act On Drink Driving To Be Ready Soon

PETALING JAYA : Amendments to the Road Transport Act 1987 on drink driving will be finalised by mid-June, says the Transport Minister. Datuk Seri Dr Wee Ka Siong said the ministry and the Road Transport Department (JPJ) would be conducting a briefing on June 1 to review the proposed amendments. He said the amendments must be finalised by the middle of next month.

“It will take into consideration public views through an ongoing research questionnaire before it is presented at a Cabinet meeting,” he said in a Facebook posting yesterday. Dr Wee said he was saddened by news of accidents throughout the month of May involving mainly drunk drivers. “I have taken the opportunity, including during the Hari Raya holidays and the conditional movement control order (MCO) period, to be at the Transport Ministry to review all proposed amendments on the Road Transport Act 1987, especially on drink driving, drugs, dangerous driving resulting in injury or death of a road user,” he wrote. The minister said the research questionnaire by the ministry was done through its logistics and transportation division.

On May 4, Dr Wee had said the government was considering mandatory jail sentences for those caught driving under the influence of alcohol. He said drunk drivers in other countries faced jail time instead of just suspension of their driving licences. If mandatory prison time was introduced, he said this could lead to more awareness of the problem. Dr Wee also said it was time for justice for the victims of drunk drivers, adding that there was no reason for anyone to drive after drinking as e-hailing services were widely available.