

## Keep teaching kids about road safety

### QUESTION

15/06/2010

### THE STAR

I READ with much interest the article "Road map to safer driving," (The Star, June 13). Kudos to the Government, spearheaded by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, for putting road safety as one of the main aspects in the national agenda. Applauses to other agencies such as the Road Safety Department (RSD) for executing all road safety initiatives in order to create a safer road environment. The first paragraph of the article says: "When budget cuts dictated a reduction in road safety advertising in the media, there was a decline in the usage of the rear safety belts, too. I am therefore a bit concerned about the future of road safety in Malaysia. Department director-general Datuk Suret Singh said in the article that road safety is being taught in schools until Year Six. Is it just me, or is there something missing in the article? I have a daughter in Year Three. She learnt road safety in Year One and Two, but somehow it abruptly stopped this year. Usually by this time of the year, my daughter would ask me to check her homework and she always gets excited working on the road safety assignments. But when I asked her about this year's assignment, she simply answered "Cikgu kata belum lagi", (Teacher said not yet). For me, this is truly devastating. I can understand the budget cuts for any initiatives for current road users, for they say you can't teach old dogs new tricks. But are we sacrificing our children's future? Suret, how serious are we in road safety education?"

### FEEDBACK

22/06/2010

### THE STAR

Dear Sir,

***Responding to the article above, Road Safety Department would like to clarify that the teaching of Road Safety Education in Schools for Year 3, 5 and 6 will commence this year by the month of July. For your information, the RSE modules and activity books for Year 3, 5 and 6 are already at the schools awaiting clearance from the Ministry of Education, while teaching of RSE Year 1, 2 and 4 already commencing in all schools in Malaysia. We assured you that Road Safety Education in Schools will continue in the future for the sake of our children and with hope of a new generation of law-abiding, safety first road users in years to come. Thank you.***

Regards,

**SAHIPULHIJAIMAN BIN SULAIMAN**  
**Director of Policy and Monitoring**  
**Road Safety Department Malaysia**  
**On behalf of Director General**  
**Road Safety Department Malaysia**