

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT

MIROS will conduct a thorough investigation into the Lembah Beringin accident

Press Statement By Yb Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai Minister Of Transport Malaysia

Liow: MIROS will conduct a thorough investigation into the Lembah Beringin accident

I am truly saddened with the Lembah Beringin tragic accident which claimed six innocent lives yesterday. Despite numerous road safety campaigns and awareness initiated by Government agencies like Road Safety Department (JKJR), Road Transport Department (JPJ), Royal Malaysian Police (PDRM) and Land Public Transport Commission (SPAD) in collaboration with private sector, nevertheless the painful reality is that accident of this nature keeps occuring.

In 2016 alone, a total of 7,152 people died in road accidents in Malaysia – an alarming increase from 6,706 deaths recorded in 2015. From the studies and analysis conducted, 80.6% of these accidents are caused by human error.

Towards this end, I have instructed the Malaysian Institute of Road Safety Research (MIROS) to conduct a thorough investigation to this accident. MIROS will be focusing on the dynamics of the crash to identify the actual cause of the accident. It is important to look into any possible gap that engineering control can be made to mitigate similar collision and yield minimum injury severity. MIROS will also assess the vehicle condition on how it was maintained as well as the management and operation of the trailer.

The government looks into this matter seriously with the regular meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Road Safety chaired by Deputy Prime Minister, YAB Dato' Seri Dr. Ahmad Zahid Hamidi as well as the implementation of the Automated Awareness Safety System (AwAS) due this month.

The AwAS, which combines the enforcement cameras and demerit points (KEJARA) is expected to reduce the number of road accidents in the country. It is my hope that the system can educate road users to comply with road and traffic regulations to reduce the number of fatal road accidents.

Furthemore, the Ministry is currently in the process of establishing the Malaysian Transport Safety Board (MTSB) to execute the function of independent and

transparent investigation on major safety incidents, research for recommendations to improve safety, monitoring and evaluation of safety initiatives of all modes of transport.

The Ministry of Transport will make public the status of the investigation conducted by the relevant agencies in an effort to prevent similar accidents in future.