

Police: Patrols to be enhanced during Raya hols

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Deputy Inspector-General of Police Datuk Razarudin Husain delivers his speech during the launching Op Selamat 18 at Menara Telekom in Jalan Pantai Baru, Bangsar. - NSTP/SAIFULLIZAN TAMADI

KUALA LUMPUR: Police will enhance patrols to secure properties and residential premises, as well as minimise burglaries and fatal road accidents.

Deputy Inspector-General of Police Datuk Razarudin Husain said this was the force's priority during Op Selamat 18 for the forthcoming Hari Raya Aidilfitri holidays.

"We are aware that the holidays are eagerly awaited by Malaysians after weathering the Movement Control Order the last two years, following the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

"What is for sure, the number of motor vehicles on the road is expected to increase ahead of Aidilfitri as we begin the operation – themed 'Safe Home, Safe Arrival at the Destination' – from April 29 until May 8.

"The operation will focus on security of property and residential premises, and minimising burglary and fatal road accidents," he said after launching Op Selamat 18 at Menara Telekom in Jalan Pantai Baru, Bangsar.

Present were Telekom Malaysia Bhd chairman Tan Sri Mohammed Azlan Hashim, its group chief executive officer Imri Mokhtar, Road Transport Department director-general Datuk Zailani Hashim, federal police Crime Prevention and Community Safety Department director Datuk Aidi Ismail and its Traffic Enforcement and Investigation Department director Datuk Mat Kasim Karim.

To achieve the operation's objectives, Razarudin said police would mobilise its entire machinery, patrols, intelligence and operations on a regulated, holistic and systematic manner.

"It will be good for the public to observe safety measures before leaving home to return to one's hometowns, as well as alert police on one's travel plans," he said.

He cautioned motorists against speeding, driving on the emergency lane; overtaking along double-lines, queue jumping and not obeying traffic signals.

"Be forewarned that using communication devices while driving is a serious offence which cannot be compounded and the offender must appear in court," he said.

Other strategies to reduce accidents at blackspot locations and smoothen traffic flow would involve the use of radar along highways and iCOPS to detect traffic offenders who had outstanding summons and traffic arrest warrants.

"Additionally, the latest traffic flow information would be uploaded in the police's official social medium for the public's benefit and plan their respective trips.

"The public can also channel any information or complaints related to traffic offenses, by sharing videos and photos to the police for further action," said Razarudin .

He added that Op Selamat 18 would be conducted through collaboration with the Emergency Response Teams from Plus, Malaysian Highway Authority, Fire and Rescue Department, Road Transport Department, Health Ministry, Civil Defence Force, Works Ministry, Red Crescent Society, St John Ambulance, local government authorities, Malaysian Road Safety Research Institute, Social Security Organisation and the media.

Meanwhile, Azlan said that TM was committed to working hand-in-hand with other law enforcement agencies to ensure the security and well-being of the community.

"This campaign reflects our unwavering support towards the government's initiatives to reduce road mishaps and improve home safety during festive seasons.

"The safety of road users and their homes are of utmost importance during festivities. This is the key message we want to spread to the public, and we urge everyone to stay alert on the road and vigilant at home," he said.

Azlan also called on the public to tip off the authorities if they came across criminals stealing telecommunication cables which could disrupt the economy and businesses.