

# Road safety awareness seminar to prevent accidents at UMS

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**KOTA KINABALU:** Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) in collaboration with the Malaysian Institute of Road Safety Research (MIROS) has successfully organised a road safety awareness seminar for UMS residents.

The seminar entitled 'Keselamatan Jalan Raya Tanggungjawab Semua' (Road Safety is Everyone's Responsibility) is an effort by UMS to prevent road accidents, especially within the university campus.

UMS Vice Chancellor Professor Datuk ChM Ts Dr Taufiq Yap Yun Hin said among the initiatives taken to prevent accidents on campus is to create a workplace maintenance system such as roads and vehicles that are specially monitored by the UMS Development and Maintenance Department.

"Apart from that, the Center for Occupational Safety and Health (PKKP) in collaboration with the Human Resources Division has also conducted driving training for students and UMS staff," he said during the seminar on Wednesday.

His speech was read by UMS registrar Luqman Ridha Anwar.

To ensure involvement and consultation between management and employees, Taufiq said the Occupational Safety and Health Committee (OSH) meetings at the UMS level have been held periodically.

"Reports of road accidents in UMS have been received and investigated by the UMS Security Division as the department that enforces the traffic rules in UMS campus.

"For teaching and learning activities at UMS, the topic of road safety is one of the subjects taught in the Traffic Engineering Course at the Faculty of Engineering," he said, adding that topics of road safety are given special attention in research activities at UMS.

MIROS director general Dato 'Ir Ts Dr Khairil Anwar Abu Kassim said the seminar was important to introduce the New Car Assessment Program for Southeast Asian Countries or ASEAN NCAP in Borneo.

ASEAN NCAP is a new vehicle safety level rating program for vehicles sold in Southeast Asia countries.

"The ASEAN NCAP program is in the form of a star award rating with 0-Star rating (poor security level) to a 5-Star rating

(very good security level).

"We have conducted several advocacy programs in several Southeast Asia countries and we like to take the opportunity to give awareness to the community in Sabah on the importance of vehicle safety star ratings as a source of information in making decisions when buying new vehicles," he explained.

Khairil, who is also ASEAN NCAP Secretary General, added that the Ministry of Transport together with MIROS and the Road Transport Department have developed a Malaysian Road Safety Plan (PKJRM) 2022-2030 as a holistic approach to monitor all road safety efforts in Malaysia.

"Under this plan, there are 10 priority areas that focus on improving the level of road safety which highlights the localisation agenda as the main method in achieving the set targets.

"Therefore, this seminar is an introductory session with UMS, especially to be actively involved in each priority area of the PKJRM Plan," he said.

Also present was PKKP UMS director Professor Dr Khamisah Awang Lukman.



Luqman (seated centre) with Khairil (seated right), Khamisah (seated left) and seminar participants.