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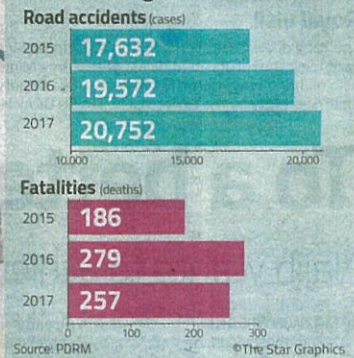
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# A safe CNY exodus for all



Number of road accidents and deaths during Chinese New Year



With tickets for the Electric Train Service having run out and space on buses selling fast for rides back home, the IGP has vowed to ensure fatal accidents on roads are kept low this Chinese New Year season. Police patrols in areas where fatal accidents are high have been beefed up as will the swoop on drivers high on drugs. The Transport Minister, meanwhile, says the authorities have gone the extra mile to ensure safe journeys, but everyone else must play their part too. 'Let's drive safely,' says Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai.  
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## Take rabies more seriously, says family of latest victim

By SHARON LING  
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**KUCHING:** The family of Bong Fah Sin, the sixth person to die from rabies in Sarawak since July, has urged the public, as well as private clinics, to be more serious about the disease.

This is because Bong, 59, was not referred to the Sarawak General

Hospital (SGH) immediately for anti-rabies vaccination after he was bitten by a dog in November.

"He sought treatment at a private clinic on Nov 27," daughter Kim Bong said, "and had seemed all right afterwards."

"He was bitten on both ankles when he went to a friend's house along Jalan Batu Kawa-Matang," she said.

"The wounds healed quite quickly and he did not show any symptoms."

"We thought he would be fine as the clinic gave him an injection and medication."

But last month, Bong began suffering muscle pain and weak limbs.

When his condition deteriorated, he was admitted to a private hospital on Jan 24 and referred to SGH

the following day after showing symptoms of hydrophobia, hallucination and aggression.

On Jan 26, a lab test confirmed that he had rabies encephalitis.

He passed away at 4.44pm on Sunday.

"I feel that people need to be more aware of the danger of rabies," Kim said at the family home here yesterday.

"Now that there is an outbreak, people need to realise that a dog bite can lead to rabies."

"The clinic that treated my father should have informed him about rabies and referred him to SGH for vaccination. This is such an important matter."

"People's lives are at stake."

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