10 Commandments for Road Safety, China

As the Chinese New Year is coming, the flow rate of cars in highways will be doubled up from 700 thousands to 1.4 million. The Director General of Malaysian Institute for Road Safety Research (Miros), Prof Dr Ir Radin Umar Radin Sohadi suggested 10 road safety tips to the drivers, so that they can reach their hometown safely.

- Tip 1: Plan your itinerary: Plan when you want to leave and which road you want to use. Try as far as possible to avoid peak traffic congestion on the eve of the festive season and go back to hometown earlier. People of other races should avoid from going back to hometown at the same time with the Chinese.
- Tip 2: Vehicle inspections: Pre-inspection of your car and fill up enough petrol.
- Tip 3: Maintain two seconds of safe distance: Maintain at least two seconds of safe distance with the vehicles at the front. The distance shouldn't be too near and it is determined by speed.
- Tip 4: Use public transport: Avoid from using high-risk vehicles such as motorcycle. Aircraft is 6000 times safer, train is 350 times safer and bus is 30 times safer than motorcycle. Even car is 17 times safer than motorcycle.
- Tip 5: Loading management: Be cautious of loading heavy and sharp objects in order to avoid fatal accidents.
- Tip 6: Self-discipline: Do not jump queue to avoid provoking rage that can lead to unpleasant incidents. Do not simply park anywhere and obstruct the traffic for your own convenience.
- Tip 7: Pursue "safety first" attitude: Good speed management and speed appropriately at appropriate sections. Human body can only sustain 40km/hr. The risk of death increases to 60% at 45km/hr and 90% at 50km/hr.
- Tip 8: Use your seat belts: Some 350 passengers are killed each year, the authorities encourage the rear seat passengers to use their seat belts to avoid from being thrown out of the vehicle or sustaining critical injuries.

Rear seat passengers who do not use their seat belts will increase the risk to the driver and the front seat passenger by 25%.

- Tip 9: Obey traffic rules and do not turn around: It is high-risk, wastes petrol and increases your blood pressure and that of other drivers.
- Tip 10: Do not drive for more than four consecutive hours: It exceeds the capability of ordinary people. It is better to take half-an-hour break after you have driven for two to three hours. (Sin Chew Daily, 3.2.2008))