

## **Daily Star**

### **A concerted effort**

Bacoleños joined in the commemoration of the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims last Sunday at the capitol lagoon with the lighting of candles and the offering of flowers for those who died due to road accidents. Dr John Juliard Go, a World Health Organization official who attended the event, said there is a need for a concerted effort from the different sectors of society to reduce, if not totally stop the deaths and injuries that result from vehicular collisions everyday.

While government plays a major role in the goal of reducing traffic accidents that are either fatal or debilitating, by becoming more stringent in what has been the spotty enforcement of basic traffic laws as well as speed limits, helmet and seatbelt use, and a more potent campaign against drunk driving; it will never be able to achieve this particular objective without the cooperation of the motorists, commuters and pedestrians who share the responsibility of abiding with traffic laws and regulations that they routinely ignore, casually putting their lives at risk everyday, in the name of convenience.

We witness everyday how traffic rules are treated as an afterthought by almost everyone who uses the road in this part of the world: motorists, commuters, pedestrians, and law enforcers alike. The World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims reminds us of the often-fatal consequences that follow the ignorance and neglect of those laws. As we remind and enjoin the government agencies involved in putting order to our roads and making them safe for all to stop the indifference to their mandate, and start doing their jobs properly, we would also like to remind everyone to take the initiative by being aware of, and following traffic rules and regulations, instead of waiting for government intervention to put us in our proper place when it comes to using the road and making it safer for everyone.\*