

Public urged to observe road safety during Chinese New Year holidays

The Transport Department (TD) today (January 28) reminded all road users, including drivers, cyclists and pedestrians, to observe road safety during the Chinese New Year holidays.

"Motorists must not drive after drinking alcohol or taking drugs as this would contravene the law. Drink driving and drug driving will not only endanger motorists themselves, but also other road users. Even a small amount of alcohol or drugs will significantly impair one's driving ability. After drinking alcohol or taking drugs, one should use public transport services or arrange someone else to drive," a spokesman for the TD said.

"In addition, motorists must not participate in illegal road racing and speeding. They should always maintain a steady and suitable speed, drive attentively, observe road conditions at all times and keep sufficient distance with the vehicle in front."

The spokesman also appealed to motorists not to park their vehicles illegally. They should park in a parking place or a car park to maintain smooth road traffic. This can avoid causing traffic jams, affecting public transport operations, blocking passage of emergency vehicles, and obstructing the sight lines of pedestrians and other road users, which may otherwise cause traffic accidents. For motorists who commit traffic offences and cause traffic obstructions, the Police will issue warnings or summonses, or even tow away the vehicles concerned.

When cycling, members of the public are advised to cycle within their abilities and observe road safety, wear suitable helmets and personal protective equipment, and properly check their bicycles. They should not cycle on pavements, and should always be attentive, patient and law-abiding.

Pedestrians must follow traffic rules when crossing the road and properly use crossing facilities. Before crossing the road, they must wait until the steady "Green man" light signal shows and all traffic has stopped. When the "Green man" light is flashing, they must not start to cross if they are still on the pavement. Do not watch or use mobile phones while crossing.

The spokesman stressed that road safety hinges on the co-operation of every road user, and appealed to the public to exercise self-discipline and comply with traffic rules.