

'MRT will cut road mishaps'

KUALA LUMPUR: The opening of the first phase of the Mass Rapid Transit Sungai Buloh-Kajang (MRT SBK) Line will reduce the number of road accidents and fatalities in the Klang Valley, said National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health chairman Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye yesterday.

"The government's effort to introduce a modern and efficient public transport system should be supported by all as it will reduce the number of road accidents, especially those which involve workers travelling to and from their workplace."

Lee said this was based on reports

of a rising trend in accidents involving people commuting to and from work, especially during the early morning rush hour.

"On average, three people die in road accidents daily in the country and two out of three cases involve people travelling to or from work."

He said most accidents occurred within 5km of commuters' workplaces. He said 27,900 accidents occurred during commuters' journey to and from work last year.

He said almost 70 per cent of the recorded accidents involved those who worked morning shifts.