

# RM10mil iFleet fund set up to promote telematics in bid to reduce road accident

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**Publish date:** Thu, 8 Aug 2019, 5:54 PM

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SUBANG: A RM10 million iFleet Transformation Fund has been set up to promote the use of telematics by vehicles operated by small and medium enterprises (SMEs), says Transport Minister Anthony Loke.

Telematics is a method of monitoring a vehicle by combining a GPS system with on-board diagnostics.

“I am looking forward to Malaysian Institute of Road Safety Research (Miros) and Digi's collaboration for significant shift in reducing road accident rates, with regard to commercial vehicles by utilising telematic data, ” Loke said at the launching of Digi Road Safety Programme 2019 on Thursday (Aug 8).

He added that some 1, 000 SMEs participating under the programme will get up to RM10, 000 in discounts to install their fleet with the telematics system provided through Digi's iFleet system.

He said that adopting the monitoring system would help change driving habits while helping SMEs better monitor their vehicles while on the road.

“Studies by Miros have shown that human error and negative driving behaviour are major contributors to road accidents and fatalities.

“The programme is a great initiative as it targets commercial transport vehicles, which are the backbone of many industries, ” he noted.

Loke added that the programme adopts a "carrot" reward system, where the 10 safest drivers would be rewarded with prizes from Digi each month.

He said this was in line with the ministry's "carrot and stick" approach to reduce the number of road accidents, whereby errant drivers are penalised while good drivers rewarded.

On a separate matter, Loke said that the ministry is in talk with several insurance companies on ways to reward good drivers insured under them.

He added the matter was brought up for discussion in the Cabinet meeting on Wednesday (Aug 7), with the ministry to announce the details soon.

Present at the event were Miros chairman Datuk Suret Singh, Miros director-general Dr Siti Zaharah Ishak, Digi Telecommunications Sdn Bhd's chief executive officer Albern Murty and chief digital officer Praveen Rajan.

