



MEDIA STATEMENT

TONTO ERADICATION SPECIAL OPS

1. The planning and intelligence over 3 months for the National Blue Ocean Strategy (BOS) between the Special Action Force (SAF) of the Road Transport Department (RTD) and Secret Societies Unit (D7) of the Royal Malaysia Police (RMP), an operation called Tonto Eradication Special Ops was carried out since the 26th of April 2016.
2. The combination of enforcement cooperation between the SAF and D7 which is a team for eradicating critical cases such as the Tonto syndicate has succeeded in arresting 15 'Tonto's' and seized 13 'Tonto' vehicles.
3. From the investigations made, those arrested were identified as the mastermind and ringleader of organized tonto syndicates. All of those arrested will be penalized and charged under the Criminal Procedure Code and Prevention of Crime Act (POCA).
4. The purpose of the Tonto Special Ops was to fight and paralyze the crimes committed by the Tonto syndicate who pose a threat to public safety. This Tonto syndicate protect and provide information to the lorry operators who commit offences.
5. In addition, these operations are also conducted to combat criminal offences that pose a threat to the lives enforcement personnel who carry out enforcement and caused damage to public property.
6. Based on the reports and investigations received, the tonto syndicate commit a variety of serious crimes in order to protect the truck entrepreneurs who violate traffic rules. Crimes committed such as damaging public vehicles, bullying, assault, intimidation and an attempt to bribing officers who carry out enforcement tasks.
7. Crimes committed by these Tonto syndicates has caused a great loss to the country. The loss incurred by the government involves various aspects such as leakage and loss of state tax revenue for reconstructing damaged public property.

8. From the monitoring done upon 2,000 lorries around the Klang Valley which committed offenses of overloading cargo, it was found that the trucks did not have valid road tax but were still operating as they were being protected by the Tonto syndicates. From that number an estimated loss of RM12 million a year in leakages for the nation's tax revenue.
9. In addition, the Public Works Department estimated the costs to be borne by the government to repair road damage caused by overloaded vehicles to be RM100 million a year.
10. To ensure that this Tonto crime can be eradicated and paralyzed totally throughout the country, the Enforcement Agencies will always work as a team. Therefore, the RTD through the Special Action Force (SAF) together with the RMP's D7 will continue to plan and combat the Tonto crimes in further Eradication of Tonto Ops.

DATO' SRI LIOW TIONG LAI
MINISTER OF TRANSPORT MALAYSIA

DATO ' SRI MOHMAD BIN SALLEH
DIRECTOR
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DEPARTMENT
ROYAL MALAYSIAN POLICE

3rd of MAY 2016

Media Communications Unit | Road Transportation Department Malaysia
Tel: 03-88928103
Email: pro.hq@jpk.gov.my
Website: www.jpk.gov.my

[END]