

Go cashless or no subsidy, Loke tells bus operators

IPOH: The Transport Ministry will review the subsidy contract of bus operators who fail to provide cashless payment systems.

Minister Anthony Loke said all bus operators were required to provide the system before they receive the subsidy.

"We will give them some time to make the changes.

"If they fail to do so, we will review their subsidy agreement,"

he said after launching the Touch n' Go cashless payment system for myBAS Ipoh at Terminal Meru Raya here yesterday.

Without elaborating on the time frame given to the operators, Loke said many e-wallet companies had expressed their desire to help bus service providers to set up the systems.

"With the implementation of the system, we are certain it will create

a more systematic public transportation. With faster transactions, there will be shorter queues and less congestion at ticketing points."

He said a cashless payment system for public transportation was part of the government's plan towards digitalising the economy.

At another event in Tapah, Loke said the Transport Ministry was working with the Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry to

monitor and ensure child restraint seats (CRS) in the market were in accordance with the necessary safety standards.

"Action will be taken under the Consumer Protection Act 1999 and the Trade Description Act 2011 against companies that are found to have supplied CRS which does not meet the stipulated standards.

"After Jan 1, the CRS products that enter the market must meet the

standards as most of them are imported," he said after launching the national-level Road Safety Campaign and Integrated Ops in conjunction with the Chinese New Year at the Tapah Rest and Recreation area.

He said the ministry was adopting a practical approach by allowing parents to use child safety seats which were purchased before the CRS enforcement took effect.