



Naeila bus crash kills four

By Sim Bak Heng

BATU PAHAT, Fri. - Four people died while 11 others were badly injured when a Johor Baru-bound Naeila express bus overturned at the Segamat-Batu Pahat border today.

Those killed in the accident, which occurred at 7.40am at Km15.5 Jalan Labis-Yong Peng, were Mohd Radzi Husain, 21, of Kampung Baru Tok Dor, Jerteh, Terengganu; Wan Mohd Alihuddin Wan Ali, 18, of Sungei Kelong, Pasir Putih and Ismail Abdullah, 59, of Kampung Telok Baru, Lundang, both from Kelantan.

The fourth victim, Noor Azam Mat, 32, from Setiu in Terengganu, was admitted to the Batu Pahat district hospital but died at about 11.10am.

Eight passengers who suffered injuries were admitted to the district hospital. They are Zakaria Jusoh, 19, and Mohd Razi Omar (age not known), both of Pasir Putih, Zamri Rahman, 27, of Jerteh, Zurazeli Mohd Daud, of Bachok, Kelantan, Ramlan Mat, 31, Sharif Dollah, 27, both from Bandar Permaisuri, Setiu, Terengganu, Abdul Hadi Beraman, 26 of Kampung Ungku Mohsin, Johor Baru and Tuan Firdaus Tuan Sabari, 16, of Kampung Telari Manir in Kuala Terengganu.

Three other passengers admitted to the Segamat district hospital are Noor Baharuddin Awang, 18, of Terengganu, Rosli Idris, 39, from Pulai Chondong, Kelantan, and Mamat Jusoh, 54, of Terengganu.

Mamat, who suffered a fractured right arm, was later transferred to the Kuala Lumpur General Hospital.

Batu Pahat district traffic and public order chief Inspector Khalid Haris said most of those injured suffered broken limbs and bruises.

He said there were 36 passengers and a co-driver in the express bus.

"The other 25 passengers, the driver and co-driver suffered minor bruises and received outpatient treatment at the Batu Pahat district hospital.

Police have detained the bus driver, Abdul Jabar Kasim, 36, to assist in the investigation.

He said eight traffic policemen and 16 firemen helped to retrieve the bodies from the damaged bus.

Newspaper reports showed that Naeila buses since January 1996 had been involved in a total of seven accidents resulting in 17 people, including passengers or other road users, killed.

In the last case reported early this month, a Naeila bus rammed into a Perodua Kancil in Dungun, Terengganu, killing six family members in the car and injuring one.

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