CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background Information

The east coast expressway is an expressway in Malaysia. It is an extension of Kuala Lumpur-Karak Expressway E8/FT2, which starts from Kuala Lumpur to Karak. It provides a link from the West Coast of Peninsular Malaysia to the East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia. It features a closed toll system like the North-South Expressway. The expressway links many major cities and towns in east coast Peninsular Malaysia, acting as the 'backbone' of the central of peninsula. This expressway passes through three states on the peninsula: Selangor, Pahang and Terengganu. It provides a more faster alternative to the old Kuala Lumpur-Kuantan Road FT2 and the Jerangau-Jabor Highway FT14, thus reducing travelling time between various towns and cities. The expressway is part of the Asian Highway Network of route AH141 (Karak - Jabur section) and the speed limit for the expressway is 110 km/h (68 mph). There were 1,657 accidents recorded in East Coast Expressway Phase 2 (LPT 2), which connects Jabor, Kemaman to Gemuruh, Kuala Terengganu, which is operational since August 2011. Besides, the total of 50 fatal accidents involve 58 deaths were recorded. In a 184-kilometer route, Hulu Terengganu was recorded the highest number of accidents that are 31 cases, followed by Dungun (12 cases) and Kemaman (7 cases).

The term "accident" according to the Oxford Dictionary refers to the sequence of events that occur accidentally and unplanned, often accidentally or necessary. It usually occurs through a combination of several causes (unsafe acts or unsafe conditions) and cause adverse effects such as physical harm to people, property damage, the incident almost and losses, which could be avoided if the circumstances leading to the accident can be identified and take action before it happens. Road
accident is a tragedy that involves everyone, whether as a driver, passengers, or pedestrians.

Road accidents have been identified as a major killer in our country. According to a statement issued by the Federal Territory Health Department, a total of 20 to 30 people were killed in road accidents every day. This figure will increase especially during the festive season when the roads and highways are flooded with various types of vehicles. There is no doubt that the accident rates in Malaysia increase every day. This increase we can see through a report published in newspapers. In fact, this issue has become a hot topic of discussion among the public. We are aware that the accidents happen every day, anytime and anywhere. We also know that the impacts of serious accidents such as injury, death and loss of property. If this is allowed to be continued, of course it would be detrimental to the country.

Accidents and deaths on the road have become a national problem that haunt us every day. Many road accidents occur especially during the festive season not only will bring harm to the victim's family, but the loss of human capital to the country. Each loss in road accidents is a loss to the country because a lot of money and spending on them has been issued for the purposes of schooling, exams, and job training and ultimately cannot contribute to the country as a result of an accident. Many slogans that have been recommended by the government for alerting motorists to be careful while riding, such as "do not let your family wait in tears" and "do not make the roads as a race." However, there was not a lot of road users who really understand the government's call. Currently, Malaysia has been listed as one of the countries which recorded the highest number of deaths due to road accidents.

Given the problem of road accidents has increased substantially in our country, scientific research should be set up to investigate the relationship between the attitude of road users and their relationship with road accidents in finding the problem and the issues that arise and suggest the best blueprint to overcome various problems identified by the proposed control efforts and the prevention of road accidents in line with the goals and objectives of the State policy.
1.2 Problem Statement

Among the main factors increasing accidents in our country due to the negligence of road users themselves. This is due to the driver being selfish, impatient while on the road and do not comply with the rules of the road. Example of negligence occurs like driving while tired and sleepy. Due to the mindset that they need to rush back to their destinations, hence they are not concerned about their condition although they are in fatigue. As a result, the vehicle is driven in a state of lack of concentration. Indirectly, the driver not only risking his own life but the life of other road users. Drivers who are in this situation should pause to eliminate sleepiness and fatigue that can give full attention to driving. Another common mistake made by motorists are driving over the speed limit and using a mobile phone while driving. Although many speed limit signs were placed along the roads and the traffic was controlled by the authorities, but they still would drive a whim without thinking of the safety of themselves and others. In fact, there is also a race for illegal use of motorcycles on the road as was done by the youth. Therefore, caution on the roads and better late than never would be able to prevent accidents from happening.

The next cause of road accidents is a state highway structures itself. The state of the roads are potholed, narrow and flat undoubtedly pose a danger to motorists. For example, roads crooked, sharp turns will make it easier for the drivers who are not familiar with the streets that are crashed involve in a road accident. Therefore, the government should take the initiative to immediately improve the road structure that may endanger the lives of road users. The road should be a priority in order for the safety of road users is guaranteed.

Vehicle condition is not maintained as well as the causes of road accidents. State maintained vehicles according to a fixed schedule can bring disaster to the driver. Obviously, the vehicle must be maintained before starting a long journey.

The study focused on the analysis of the number of road accidents on a regular basis with the support of the factors that cause a general without referring to the attitude of road users as one of the main contributors to road accidents in the country. With this it was time for a detailed study of the road is among the causes of the accident. The study should be carried out as currently as there is no studies carried out here yet. Researchers refer to the East Coast Expressway Phase 1 from Gombak to Jabor or its