

Driver dies as bus rams into tree

NST 12/5/12 MS 20

HOLIDAY NIGHTMARE: Several Chiangmai-bound passengers injured in crash on way to airport

PATRICK SENNYAH
NILAI
news@nst.com.my

A TOUR bus driver was killed when the vehicle he was driving crashed into a tree in Jalan Gadong Jaya, near here, early yesterday.

K. Gunachandar, 52, was pinned to his seat in the 4am incident and died at the scene.

He was believed to have lost control of the vehicle while transporting nine men and 19 women aged between 40 and 72 from Tampin to the low cost carrier terminal (LCCT) at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Sepang.

Several passengers, who were headed to the LCCT to catch a 7am light to Chiangmai for a holiday, were injured.

"The injured were rushed to Tuanku Ja'afar Hospital in Seremban.

"Seven of them were admitted while the rest were given outpatient treatment," said a police spokesman.

Two passengers are believed to be in critical condition.

Passenger Law Tau Fong, 62, said they left Tampin at 3am.

"We had all bought a three-day, two-night holiday package.

"We never expected our holiday to Chiangmai to turn into a nightmare," she said.

Law said she and her husband panicked when they noticed the bus shaking violently from side to side. Within seconds they were



The bus that was transporting 20 passengers to the low cost carrier terminal at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Sepang from Tampin. It **crashed into a tree** at Km11 Jalan Gadong Jaya, Nilai, yesterday morning. Pic by Owee Ah Chun

flung out of the bus through the front windscreen.

"The situation was chaotic.

"I saw several people who were

trapped inside the vehicle trying to break the windows to get out," she said at the Tuanku Ja'afar Hospital.

Law said there was loud screaming and crying before several ambulances arrived and took the injured to hospital.

It could not be immediately established if other vehicles were involved in the accident, said the police spokesman.