

# Cows make themselves at home on Rantau roads

**SEREMBAN:** About 50 cows appear to have taken up residence on the roads near Rantau town, near here, and endangering the safety of motorists.

They are believed to be deliberately left free to look for grazing ground by their owners.

The animals park themselves in the middle of the roads to sleep, taking motorists by surprise, especially at night.

Resident Marlia Hamzah, 41, said the local community has repeatedly told the owners not to let the cows stray on to the roads as they could cause accidents.

The owners, however, continue to allow the herd to freely roam.

"The animals are unpredictable. They may be sleeping and all of a sudden, get up and

walk in the middle of the road. Numerous accidents have already occurred, especially at night," added Marlia.

Teh Ah Hua, 56, said the owners usually released the animals into a nearby palm oil plantation. Left unattended, they would stray onto the roads.

He said he almost met with an accident recently because of the cows.

"A car trying to avoid the cows almost knocked me down," he said, adding that the authorities should capture the cows and fine the owners accordingly.

"The authorities must take drastic action. Only then will the owners realise that they must be more responsible and take better care of the animals," he added. **By Ramesh Pillai**