

Qatar launches new unit to improve road safety

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TRAFFIC ISSUES: A new initiative will tackle road safety problems in Qatar.

Qatar is setting up a new research centre in an effort to improve its cities' traffic systems and road safety, it was reported on Wednesday.

Under a new memorandum of understanding, Texas Transportation Institute (TTI), a member of the Texas A & M University, will set up the unit to reduce road accidents in Qatar through development of better traffic and road safety systems, Qatar Tribune reported.

Called the Qatar Transportation Centre (QTC), the initiative will be engaged in a five-year research programme to study and find solutions to Qatar's traffic problems, the paper added.

Eyad Masad, the assistant dean for Research and Graduate Studies, told the paper: "The mission of QTC will be to assist Qatar in developing a world-class, safe and efficient traffic and transportation system which will meet the existing as well as the future needs of the country."

QTC will also function as a link among various government agencies, non-government agencies as well as international experts in transportation safety, he added.