

Toll likely at stormwater tunnel

KUALA LUMPUR: Toll is likely to be imposed on users of the three-km long road section of the 9.7km stormwater management and road tunnel or SMART project, Drainage and Irrigation Department Director General Datuk Keizrul Abdullah said yesterday.

He said toll would be imposed because the road itself would be an alternative to the present road system.

"I think so, because being an alternative road, we should be prepared to pay the toll to avoid the traffic jam," he told reporters at the SMART project site near Jalan Cochrane.

He was asked if toll would be collected on motorists using the stretch.

Under the SMART project, a three-km motorway tunnel is also being built to ease traffic congestion. It connects the city centre near the Kampung Pandan roundabout to the Kuala Lumpur-Seremban Expressway near Sungai Besi.

However, the double-deck road tunnel section will be closed to traffic when flood diversion is in operation.

On the amount of the toll, Keizrul said it had not been formalised yet and the Government would announce it later.

The concession period for the toll collection would be 40 years, he said.

"The Government is making the concession period long so that the toll can be reduced as much as possible to ease the burden on road users," he added.

— Bernama