

# \$350m toll subsidy for KL approved: PM

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(P)

THE Cabinet has approved \$350 million to subsidise toll rates in Kuala Lumpur, Prime Minister **Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad** said yesterday. Details will be announced today by Works Minister Datuk Leo Moggie.

Speaking to reporters after closing a **skills** competition in Shah Alam, Datuk Seri **Dr Mahathir** said the allocation is to assist the company operating the Jalan Cheras toll.

"The Government has to subsidise the toll rates. Otherwise, even if the company charges \$5, it will not be able to cover its costs," the Prime Minister added.

He said this means that the Government is spending a lot for residents in and around Kuala

Lumpur.

"I hope those who have been provoking others to protest against the toll realise that the Government is subsidising the rates," he said.

On the study to manufacture small-engined cars, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said a preliminary report on the feasibility study has been submitted to the Government. The report stated that the proposed project needs further study to establish its feasibility. A final report is due by the end of the year.

"If the final report says the project is feasible, we shall go ahead; otherwise, the Government will drop the idea," Datuk Seri **Dr Mahathir** added.