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Samy-highway (with pix)

NORTH-SOUTH RM1.1 BILLION LINK TO BE OPENED IN OCTOBER

SHAH ALAM, Sept 4 (Bernama) -- The 38-kilometre middle link of the North-South Highway here, built at a cost of RM1.1 billion, will be opened in October, Works Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu said today.

He said that with the opening of the stretch, highway users need not have to pass through Kuala Lumpur to travel to the north or the south.

It connected the New Klang Valley Expressway in the north and the Kuala Lumpur-Seremban Highway in the south, he told reporters after visiting the middle link project, here.

The project, undertaken by Ekspresway Lingkaran Tengah Sdn Bhd (ELITE), is the first highway in the country to be landscaped with various trees and plants.

Samy Vellu said a rest area and an overhead restaurant would also be provided along the stretch in addition to emergency telephone facilities and 24-hour patrol.

The stretch also links Putrajaya, Cyberjaya and KL International Airport (KLIA).

Samy Vellu said the toll for the stretch would be similar to that of Projek Lebuhraya Utara-Selatan Bhd (PLUS), which was 10.6 sen per kilometre.

On the proposal by Defence Ministry to provide space along the highway for plane to land during emergency, he said the matter needed to be looked into in depth.

He said this would require large area, possible only near the border or away from the urban area.

Samy Vellu also visited the KLIA in Sepang and was satisfied with the progress of the project which is on schedule.

The trial run on the airport's basic operations will be held on Sept 15 and another on Dec 15.

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad would witness the first trial run which would involve the landing of a MAS Boeing 747.

--BERNAMA

RHM ABG