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Highway

PLUS REQUESTS TO IMPOSE ADDITIONAL CHARGES FOR LIGHTED HIGHWAY

KUALA LUMPUR, March 3 (Bernama) -- Projek Lebuhraya Utara Selatan (Plus) has requested to impose additional charges on motorists if the whole stretch of the North-South highway is to be lighted up, Works Minister Datuk Seri S.Samy Vellu said today.

He said that the toll rates may be slightly increased if the proposed lighting project was implemented.

Samy Vellu said that Plus had completed a study on the proposed lighting project and would be submitting the report to the ministry next week.

"I will study the report before taking it to the Cabinet in mid-March," he told reporters after launching the Eighth Skills Competition at his ministry here.

He said Plus had included in its initial report various recommendations like whether to install lighting from Bukit Kayu Hitam right up to Johor Bahru or only at major towns, stretching 80 kilometres at both sides of the highway, where traffic was heavy.

Samy Vellu said when a decision had been made, discussions would be held with Tenaga Nasional Berhad on the cost of the proposed lighting project.

He said Tenaga Nasional had indicated that it was willing to negotiate on the electricity charges for supplying power to light up the highway.

On the six-day Skills Competition to be held on Sept 18, Samy Vellu said that information technology (IT) would be included as a new event.

He said that the various aspects of IT, to be included under the youth category, was in line with the call by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for Malaysians to acquire IT to ensure the success of the proposed Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC) project.

He said this year's competition would have 23 skills events where 14 were for the open category, 22 for the youth category and three for the team category.

The competition will be held at the Centre of Instructors' Advanced Skills Training (CIAST) and Institut Teknologi Mara (ITM) in Shah Alam.

Earlier in his speech, Samy Vellu said one of the prerequisites for the nation to achieve the objectives of Vision 2020 was the existence of dynamic, productive and quality human resources. -- BERNAMA

AKT ZUL RM